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Living on the wild side

How a little danger can add taste to a bite of life
Magnus Linklater, page 17



Jobs bonanza

20 pages of top management posts
Special section 3



Homosexuality and the church

Self denial is an essential part of Christian morality, says Janet Daley, **page 18**

20P

THE TIMES

No. 65,210 THURSDAY MARCH 9 1995

THE UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN SERIALS DIVISION

Major warned of Brussels pitfalls

No 10 memo urges caution on Europe

BY PETER RIDDELL

A LEAKED Whitehall paper has cast serious doubts on John Major's hopes of giving Westminster a bigger say over Brussels.

The Prime Minister seems certain to run into opposition from more centralist countries such as Belgium and Germany, and the European Parliament, according to a confidential briefing paper prepared for a senior Cabinet minister.

Ministers are warned that any attempt to strengthen the powers of national parliaments over Brussels through amendments to the Treaty of Rome would be "fraught with difficulty". Mr Major and his colleagues are advised to "tread carefully in this area".

The note spells out the Government's options for the critical inter-governmental conference on the future of the European Union to be held next year.

Mr Major is committed to exploring ways of enhancing the role of national parliaments. In other areas, too, the confidential note emphasises potential pitfalls and problems in heading off calls for further centralisation.

The leaked document is a civil service briefing note for a senior minister on the Cabinet's committee on Europe, known as OPD (E), which is meeting regularly to refine Britain's negotiating position. The note comments on a Cabinet Office paper about possible options that can be worked up to present at the conference.

This disclosure will be seized upon by the Conservative Euro-sceptics who are wary of any hint of further integration. They are pressing for an assertion of the role of the House of the Commons over European matters and a reduction in the power of the Strasbourg Parliament.

The note says that "building up a formal role for national parliaments through treaty amendment would not only be fraught with difficulty but would tend to require inputs from parliaments which are significantly more integrationist than Westminster".



Hurd: he chairs cabinet committee on Europe

It seems advisable, the officials add, "to tread carefully in this area, avoiding treaty amendments wherever possible in favour of practical steps designed to enable the United Kingdom Parliament to enhance its role in European affairs".

The European committee is chaired by Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, and has 11 other Cabinet members as well as the Attorney-General. It includes pro-Europeans such as Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine and sceptics such as Michael Portillo and John Redwood.

The briefing note is cautious about the scope for achieving UK aims. Even in the area of practical steps to give the UK Parliament a greater role, it states that "the price to be paid by ministers in giving Westminster an enhanced role must be weighed against the likely limited success of any initiative in blunting a campaign for enhanced powers for the European Parliament".

The officials say that "there can be no objection to entrenching some aspects of the Maastricht subsidiarity declaration in the body of the treaty. But in practice much will depend on the scrutiny procedures adopted by individual parliaments."

The official note is also sceptical about the scope for involving national parliaments in achieving subsidiarity, or returning powers now exercised at a European level back to a national level. "Despite a general wish to bring national parliaments into the frame, it seems highly doubtful whether the involvement of 16 parliaments in testing subsidiarity would in practice lead to a more positive outcome in individual cases."

The whole emphasis of the Government's policy is how to avoid further integrationist pressures. The note says "there is no doubt that there will be pressure from a number of quarters to adjust the institutional balance of the treaty in favour of the Eruopean Parliament.

"The UK will wish to oppose any developments which would adjust the institutional balance. To that end the [Cabinet Office] paper focuses on the possibility of working up ideas which would deflect this pressure, by giving the European Parliament increased authority in relation to financial management, while seeking ways to enhance democratic legitimacy through the involvement of national parliaments instead of the European Parliament".

The Cabinet's European committee is considering a variety of areas: the number of European commissioners, management and efficiency of the Commission, subsidiarity, deregulation, powers of the European Parliament, role of the national parliaments, common foreign and security policy, and justice and home affairs.

The UK Government is likely to propose a treaty amendment "requiring the Commission to take account of competitiveness and burdens on business when proposing new legislation and other elements of a deregulation initiative. This would be worthwhile: and easy to present positively to a wider audience in the UK, particularly the business community".

Diary, page 18



GRAHAM MORRIS

Fletcher, sacked as manager yesterday, was never comfortable in the spotlight

Fletcher makes way for Illingworth as manager

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

KEITH FLETCHER, the England cricket team manager, yesterday paid the price for the disastrous tour of Australia when he was sacked halfway through his five-year contract.

Fletcher, 50, was told of the decision by the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) on a family skiing holiday in the French Alps. Paying him off will cost the TCCB £100,000 for the remaining two and a half years of his contract. Under Fletcher's management, England have won five of 26 Test matches, lost 15 and been beaten in four out of six series.

Alan Smith, the TCCB chief executive, said yesterday: "We have to look elsewhere for a man to rekindle the pride and the passion in playing for England."

Raymond Illingworth, the chairman of selectors, will manage the team this summer against West Indies, on the tour of South Africa later this year, and in the World Cup which follows in India and Pakistan.

At an age when most people are preparing for retirement, he has been given the job he values above all others. Illingworth, 63, captain of England between 1969 and 1973, could have had the manager's job eight years ago. At the time he felt it did not carry sufficient responsibility so it went to Micky Stewart.

Illingworth will have a new selector to work with. David Graveney, the newly appointed general secretary of the Cricketers' Association, the players' trade union, was elected in place of Brian Bolus, one of Illingworth's "starred" candidates. The selectors will meet next month to appoint a captain, presumably Michael Atherton.

England scapegoat, page 48

Government admits it knew power price curbs planned

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, ROSS TIEMAN AND MARTIN WALLER

THE Government was facing the threat of legal action from aggrieved shareholders last night after disclosing that it considered calling off its latest electricity sale as late as last Friday because it knew that new curbs on power prices were under consideration.

As it faced new accusations of insider trading, it also emerged that a parliamentary inquiry into the regulation of the electricity industry and the actions of Stephen Littlechild, its regulator, will be announced today.

The investigation by the Trade and Industry Select Committee reflects deepening concern at the failings of the regulatory regime.

It comes after Sir George Young, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said that the Treasury had on Friday consulted lawyers and financial advisers on the sell-off and cleared the prospectus with the electricity regulator. "Having done that, we took the decision to proceed," he said.

It appeared that neither Downing Street nor the Department of Trade and Industry was aware of the discussions, but there were clear signs in the Government of irritation with Professor Littlechild over the timing of his review announcement.

The disclosure prompted an allegation from John Cunningham, the Shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, last night that the Government was guilty of insider trading. "It is now quite clear that the Government knew of Professor Stephen Littlechild's intention to reconsider the pricing controls. That comes under the heading of inside information in Section 56 of the Criminal Justice Act 1993."

In the Commons, Dr Cunningham said that in withholding that information, ministers and officials were guilty of absolute negligence or complete dishonesty in their handling of the affair. Last night Dr Cunningham and his advisers were considering whether there was a case for referring the matter to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Electricity utility shares were still reeling from Tuesday's statement by Professor Littlechild. In spite of a partial late recovery, widespread losses stretched to £1 for some stocks, giving a two-day retreat of more than £2 for some.

It was disclosed yesterday that the Government's City advisers had considered the impact of Professor Littlechild's review. But Kleinwort Benson and BZW, the two investment banks coordinating the offer, concluded that the prospectus for the generators' sale was complete, and that the sell-off should go ahead after consultations with Professor Littlechild.

More than a million private investors bought shares in National Power and PowerGen only to find themselves facing losses when prices fell below the offer price after the announcement.

Sir George rejected the accusation of insider trading when he appeared on *The World at One* on BBC Radio 4. But he admitted that the Treasury had consulted Slaughter and May, the lawyers, and Kleinwort Benson and BZW before deciding whether to go ahead.

One Lancashire businessmen said yesterday he was suing the Treasury and its advisers. More worrying for the Government is the threat that one of the big institutional buyers might take action.

Letters 19
Shares fall 25
Pennington 27

Bundesbank tries to calm markets

BY GEORGE SIVELL, ASSISTANT BUSINESS EDITOR

THE Bundesbank tried to calm the troubled foreign exchange markets yesterday by declaring that the current currency turmoil was not justified.

The rare public declaration from Frankfurt was intended to support both the Italian lira and the French franc. The French had already raised their interest rates yesterday to deter speculators.

Bundesbank officials said: "In the common aim of achieving monetary stability, the Bundesbank will continue to co-operate closely with the European central banks." The Germans also believe that the "current dollar weakness is a temporary phenomenon and the dollar rate will rise again".

Signs that central banks were trying to resolve the currency crisis helped the pound. It plunged from Tuesday's close of DM2.2604 to a new trading low of DM2.2205 before rallying to DM2.2489 at the official close. Against the dollar, the pound slipped a little from $1.6242 to $1.6220, and the dollar managed to stabilise at around the 90-yen level.

At midday trading in New York it had risen to 91.20 yen after tumbling through the 90-yen level to 89.65 on Tuesday.

In a further sign that the speculators were retreating from their attack on the dollar, the American currency rose against the mark from DM1.3675 to DM1.3925.

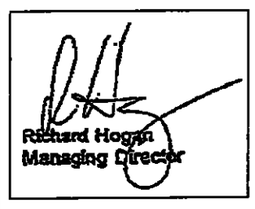
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Richard Hogan
Managing Director

Signature at inquiry centre

This signature, allegedly forged by Nick Leeson on a letter purporting to come from Richard Hogan, the Wall Street financier, forms the basis of Singapore's attempt to extradite him for trial.

Mr Leeson says he is willing to tell the Serious Fraud Office all he knows in the hope that he will be charged and extradited to Britain ..... Page 2

Business News, page 25

Karachi killings

Two Americans were killed by terrorists in Karachi when gunmen fired on their minibus. President Clinton said he did not expect the deaths to alter the visit of his wife Hillary this month Page14

Leading article, page 19

Bodies recovered

The number of deaths in the Scottish mountains rose to 15 in six weeks as rescuers recovered the bodies of three men from Glencoe. Two others, missing since Saturday, are now presumed dead ..... Page 3

Major gambles on IRA guns

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND NICHOLAS WATT

FACE-TO-FACE talks between ministers and Sinn Fein leaders could begin without the IRA handing over a single gun, Downing Street announced yesterday.

As the Government sought to inject fresh momentum into the search for peace in a Northern Ireland, Michael Howard, Home Secretary, responded to the "transformed situation" by lifting exclusion orders on 16 suspected Irish terrorists. Forty are still on the blacklist — half the number of a year ago.

In the annual debate on the renewal of the Prevention of Terrorism Act, Mr Howard also said that if the ceasefire held, the Government would have to consider whether it needed to retain the "exceptional powers" in this temporary piece of legislation.

The moves, which provoked outrage among Unionists and a critical response from Sinn Fein leaders, are seen at Westminster as John Major's latest gamble in his delicate balancing act intended to bring all sides to the negotiating table.

They were also intended to put pressure on Sinn Fein to say what it intends to do about Republican weapons. The overtures were coupled with a Downing Street warning that Sinn Fein would not come in from the cold fully until the IRA had made big strides in destroying its guns and explosives.

The significance of the moves is that the Government is dispelling the deliberate confusion surrounding the terms on which Sinn Fein could talk to ministers and clarifying its past calls for "substantial progress on decommissioning weapons".

Amplifying Tuesday's remarks by Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, in Washington, Downing Street officials denied that the Government was softening its stance towards Sinn Fein. They admitted, however, that John Major and his Cabinet had embarked on a new phase in the process.

"Are we moving the position on? The answer is Yes," one senior aide said. "But it is not a softening. That is nonsense."

Downing Street's intervention clarified the conditions attached to direct talks between ministers and Sinn Fein leaders such as Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness.

Ministers would be prepared to enter the exploratory

Continued on page 2, col 3

Protestors' flare sets fire to British ferry

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

FRENCH sailors yesterday fired a rocket flare at a British cross-Channel ferry and set it on fire in Boulogne harbour. The ferry is at the centre of a dispute over the use of low-wage Polish seamen.

The flare, fired through the window of an empty lounge on *The Spirit of Independence*, caused tens of thousands of pounds worth of damage. It gutted the lounge, but did not spread to the rest of the ship and was put out by the ferry's crew. There were no injuries, and the ferry made the trip to Folkestone.

Its owners, Meridian Ferries, based in Folkestone, said they had been subjected to "terrorist tactics" and called on the French Government to protect them against the demonstrators.

The attack came from 12 French seamen who circled the ferry in two tugs as it waited for lorries to load. French police later made several arrests.

The French seamen have been picketing the sea-front at Boulogne since January in their protest against the use of 130 Polish sailors on Meridian's two freight ferries.

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Vehement veggie force feeds the House on a diet of smut and bile

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

"THERE'S an old joke in the East End," Tony Banks began. "Yes. And you're it!" shouted several Tories, suffused already with that old East End spirit.

Mr Banks (Lab, Newham NW) was recommending his Bill promoting vegetarianism. There's an old East End attitude towards vegetarian leftwingers, too, but he did not mention this.

As Chris Patten used to say, we can see a Banks joke coming from the other end of Victoria Street.

His old East End joke yesterday was the one about how, if you think the bottom has fallen out of your world, you should eat one of Bill Bloggs's sandwiches. Then the world will fall out of your bottom.

Most of Mr Banks's jokes seem to be about bottoms, and the rest are about bladders, breasts and the excretory functions. No debate about EU clean beach directives is complete without a Banks quip concerning floating voters and voting floaters, etc.

Psychoanalysts studying his speeches may one day be able to diagnose the problem, which probably has more to do with early weaning than Karl Marx. In the meantime, Mr Banks is the closest the Commons has to a walking *Viz* comic.

Psychoanalysis may also be able to discover why Mr Banks, crusading in the cause of tolerance and peace, becomes so intolerant and aggressive. He has told us more than once how he would like to see hunters torn limb from limb. Sometimes as he preaches his message of love, his face becomes quite twisted with hate.

Yesterday, praising the eating habits of vegetarians ("I'm no food fascist," he barked, in tones suggesting he would frog-march to the guillotine anybody who suggested otherwise) he warned meat-eaters that they would grow a third breast, go bald, contract cancer, suffer a series of massive heart-attacks and, condemned to obesity, halitosis and acne, die a lingering death. And serve them right. Mr Banks has come to vegetarianism relatively late, without pressure, in his own time and through argument. He would not extend the same courtesy to his countrymen.

Still, it was a clever and entertaining speech. Banks at his best is one of the Commons's best speakers. So it was a pity he launched his attack on fat people while standing right next to Labour's largest lady backbencher. "A glance around the Chamber," Banks declared to suppressed mirth, would show us that British men and women were too fat and getting fatter.

Mildred Gordon (Bow & Poplar), beside him, gave a pained smile. The admirable Ms Gordon has actually been looking rather good of late and looked smashing yesterday. She could eat alive a blow-dried, lemon-faced stick insect with a shrivelled bottom like Banks.

A problem for vegetarianism, he explained, was that some vegetarians adopted an unlikeable style. "So sit down!" shouted someone. However, our born-again veggie persisted: "Vegetarians look better, too." An assortment of noises from colleagues suggested doubt on this score.

As he resumed his seat it became apparent that a Tory, Peter Bottomley (Eltham) was minded to oppose him. "Speak for England!" shouted one old buffer, as Bottomley rose. But the MP, a vegetarian himself, spoke instead for tolerance and against hysterical food-faddism, slightly spoiling the effect by declaring: "Hysteria comes from cheese!"

All good fun. The House laughed, voted, and nothing will come of it. Some MPs eat meat, some eat cheese and some do not. All are hysterical. It must be something in the water.

Leeson will name names in return for ticket home

FROM DOMINIC KENNEDY IN FRANKFURT

NICK LEESON is willing to tell all he knows about the collapse of the Barings banking group to the Serious Fraud Office in the hope that he will be charged with an offence that would require extradition to Britain.

Mr Leeson is prepared to bring others down with him to ensure that he is not sent for trial in Singapore, where he was a futures trader.

"If anyone still believes that it is Nick Leeson, rogue trader, that brought Barings down on his own, then they are fairly unrealistic," his English lawyer, Stephen Pollard, said yesterday after six hours of talks in a German jail.

"He is being made a scapegoat for others. The information he is giving us involves a much wider circle of people in London and Singapore. Reporting so far has not scraped the surface. Everyone seems concerned to focus the blame on Leeson, which is neither accurate nor fair.

"If you believe everything you hear from Barings officials you are going to find this story very confusing. You are not going to find many points of contact."

Mr Pollard, a partner in Kingsley Napley, visited Mr Leeson, 28, at the prison in the Frankfurt suburb of Höchst where he is being held on remand on a charge of falsification of documents.

Mr Pollard and Eberhard Kempf, a German human rights lawyer also representing Mr Leeson, appear to be struggling to find a way under German law to prevent extradition to Singapore. They cannot complain that the maximum seven-year sentence he faces is unduly harsh because in Germany it carries a potential ten-year sentence.

The German courts do not consider the merits of the evidence against the suspect wanted for extradition: they simply satisfy themselves that the request is properly made. But Mr Pollard said: "If there were an extradition request from England then that would open up all sorts of alternatives to extradition to Singapore." He noted that the German papers had reported that six senior figures from Barings were being questioned in London. Last night no one had been charged.


Leeson: insists that holiday was planned

The Serious Fraud Office has not approached Mr Leeson's lawyers, but they made clear he would be happy to help them. The SFO said last night it would be pleased to consider any relevant information.

Asked whether England had jurisdiction to prosecute Mr Leeson for his alleged activities in Singapore, Mr Pollard said: "Potentially it rather depends what the Barings management are being charged with. For example, information being sent from Singapore to London which proved to be incorrect and was used in London . . . could well find sufficient jurisdiction."

Mr Leeson strongly denies that he fled Singapore to escape the authorities. However, a report from Singapore suggests that ten days before Barings collapsed, he and his wife Lisa contacted a local removal company and requested that all their possessions be transported back to Britain and put in storage in West Kingsdown, Kent, where Mrs Leeson's parents live.

Diane Massimiani of Four Winds, the Singaporean transport company, said Mrs Leeson told her they needed to store their belongings because they were "going away for a while and did not know when they would reach Kent".

According to the version of events Mr Leeson has given to his lawyers, the fall of Britain's oldest bank and his departure on February 24 for a holiday in Malaysia with his wife was a coincidence.

Mr Pollard said: "Mr Leeson found himself under increasing pressure at work and personal pressures as well. The decision was taken to take a short break. There is no question of a flight as in escape, there is no question of them abandoning their flat.

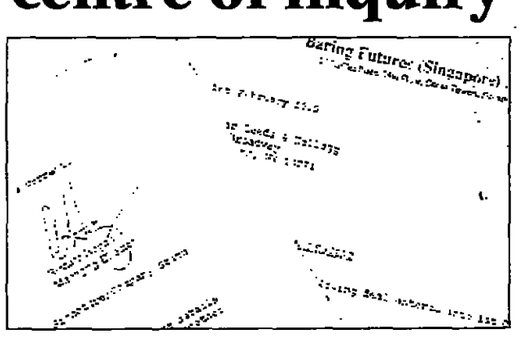
"They packed what you would normally pack for a short holiday and left using at all times their own passports . . . travelling at all times in their own names. Only on the 26th did they happen to see a copy of an English-language Malaysian newspaper.

"At no time after they left Singapore did Mr Leeson have the slightest fear that what has happened would happen. There is no question of Mr Leeson having had any personal financial advantage out of this."

Barings reopening, page 25
Hu interview, page 29


Nick Leeson's lawyers, Eberhard Kempf, left, and Stephen Pollard, at a press conference in Frankfurt yesterday

Letter at centre of inquiry



THIS is the signature allegedly forged by Nick Leeson on a letter purporting to come from the Wall Street financier Richard Hogan. The letter, confirming the purchase of derivatives, forms the basis of an attempt by the Singapore authorities to extradite Mr Leeson for trial on a charge of document falsification.

Mr Leeson is alleged to have tried to hoodwink Barings auditors with the letter, typed on the headed notepaper of Baring Futures (Singapore) Pte Limited, Raffles Place, Singapore, and dated February 1, 1995. It is addressed to Spear Leeds and Kellogg on Broadway, New York.

The American company is the largest specialist firm on the New York Stock Exchange. The letter requests confirmation of the purchase of 200 call-option contracts, allegedly signed on behalf of Spear Leeds and Kellog by Mr Hogan, its managing director. The amount due as a result of the deal was 7.8 billion yen (£53 million).

The Singapore authorities contend that the money was not received from the American company. Instead, they say, the cash was secretly transferred from Baring Futures' customer account to the house account and the letter of confirmation forged to deceive Barings' auditors.

Rising legal star has winning way

BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

MAN IN THE NEWS

STEPHEN POLLARD, the lawyer who flew out from the London law firm Kingsley Napley to represent Nick Leeson, was described yesterday as "one of the new young blades" rising in the profession.

Lawyers yesterday pointed to his tenacity, thoroughness, persuasiveness as an advocate and an ability to inspire confidence in a client. Anthony Burton, senior partner with Simons Muirhead & Burton, said: "He is very personable and extremely able. He certainly has the equipment to deal with this type of case."

Mr Pollard, 36, who lives in Putney, southwest London, with his wife and two-year-old son Thomas, has wide experience of commercial and criminal cases. He also knows the futures market and represented two directors of DPR Futures Ltd who were prosecuted in 1990 for conspiracy to defraud.

Nadine Radford, a barrister who has been briefed by Mr Pollard, said he had a knack of striking up a good relationship with the client. He was hard-working and "in complete command of the detail". He was happy to take up an unpopular case.

Mr Pollard said yesterday that he had found Mr Leeson "a much nicer man than I expected. He was delightful to deal with, very honest, open. I didn't have to pull his teeth to get instructions like you do with some clients. And he has a sense of humour."

Mr Pollard grew up in Manchester and went to Pembroke College, Oxford. He was articled with Payne Hicks Beach in London, spent eight months on secondment with the European Commission of Human Rights, came back to do commercial litigation with the firm and then spent a year with the Crown Prosecution Service.

He took a year off to travel around South America before joining Kingsley Napley, the best-known criminal law firm in the country. Among well-known cases, he successfully defended Lou Macari, the former Swindon Town manager, in a prosecution by the Inland Revenue. Last week he defended the man accused of the contract killing of an accountant in Lancashire.

Mr Pollard was sent out by John Clitheroe, senior partner of the firm. Mr Clitheroe will be part of the team acting for Mr Leeson and his wife, along with Chris Murray, head of the firm's criminal law department.

With three lawyers on the case on an estimated £200-£300 an hour each, Mr Leeson could run up a huge legal bill. But Mr Clitheroe said he hoped that soon only one person would be needed.

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IRA guns

Continued from page 1

phase — under way since December between Northern Ireland Office officials and Sinn Fein — if the IRA's political wing committed itself to a "serious and substantive discussion of decommissioning during the exploratory dialogue leading on to concrete results".

One well-placed ministerial source emphasised the point. "In the exploratory phase, it is certainly the case that they don't have to give up a gun."

Officials also stressed that Sinn Fein would only be given an "admission ticket" to the second stage of round-table talks involving all the main constitutional parties if the IRA was committed to "substantial progress" over destroying its weapons.

In the Commons, Mr Howard moved cautiously as he acknowledged that the IRA's August ceasefire had changed the background to draconian anti-terrorist laws dating to the Birmingham pub bombings of 1974. But he rejected Labour demands for a review of all anti-terrorist laws.

"The troubles of the past 25 years have claimed the lives of more than 3,000 people and injured many more," Mr Howard told MPs.

"It would be wholly irresponsible to dismantle our defences while the paramilitary organisations remain intact, while they continue to carry out brutal punishment beatings, while their command structures, weapons and explosives remain in place and while they retain the capacity at very short notice," he added.

But Mr Howard saw scope for reducing the number of exclusion orders banning suspected terrorists from either the United Kingdom as a whole or the British mainland.

The Home Secretary did not name those reprieved.

Labour protests as pioneering reading scheme is dropped

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

LABOUR accused the Government yesterday of abandoning a pioneering literacy scheme just as an official report proved how effective it could be.

Reading Recovery, a scheme imported from New Zealand in a blaze of publicity before the last election, was billed as a panacea for a growing number of slow readers in primary schools, but government funding is drying up as the three-year initiative comes to an end.

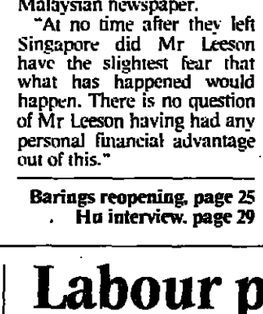
An independent evaluation for the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority found that the scheme produced dramatic improvements in ability. Although much more expensive than alternative remedial programmes, it had more effect and could offer better value for money in the long term. More than 10,000 children have benefited from the scheme in the three years of the programme.

The report, by Professor Kathy Sylva and Dr Jane Hurry, of the Thomas Coram Research Unit in London, said that the half an hour tuition a day under the scheme was twice as expensive as regular remedial teaching but in eight to nine months, children could make 17 months' progress. Reading Recovery, which is aimed at six-year-olds who are having trouble learning to read, has received £14 million of government support over three years. A dozen of the 20 local authorities funded by the Education Department will continue to benefit from Government regeneration grants, but the original scheme ends next month.

David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, said: "Gillian Shephard is presiding over lower literacy standards by abandoning support for Reading Recovery. The Government's own agency has confirmed [its] excellence in helping the weakest reading students. Yet this is the moment ministers choose to abandon the scheme."

A spokeswoman for the Education Department said government funding had been intended to "pump prime" the projects, which would continue to be eligible for other forms of support. At least six authorities were planning to continue the work from their own resources.

Angela Hobsbaum, co-ordinator of the Reading Recovery National Network, based at the London University Institute of Education, said: "The report proves Reading Recovery is worth supporting."


Blunkett: predicting lowering of standards

Leading article, page 19

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The strange case of Flockton Grey returns to court

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

THE case of Flockton Grey, the racehorse said to have been swapped for a "ringer", is to return to the courts for the examination of new evidence 11 years after its owner, Kenneth Richardson, was convicted for conspiracy to defraud bookmakers.

Mr Richardson, 56, a former racehorse owner and businessman, was given a nine-month suspended sentence and fined £20,000 at York Crown Court in 1984 after he was convicted of running a ringer in a race at Leicester.

He was said to have made £200,000 from the scam and was "warned off" — banned from racing — by the Jockey Club for 25 years after the case, but steadfastly maintained his innocence.

Mr Richardson appealed to the High Court against the conviction in 1986 and in October last year to Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, but both appeals were refused.

Yesterday Mr Justice Laws granted Mr Richardson leave to seek judicial review of the Home Secretary's ruling. Michael Mansfield, QC, said evidence had come to light which showed that Mr Richardson had not switched horses and this should have been put before the Appeal Court.

Mr Mansfield told the High Court that, after Mr Richardson's unsuccessful 1986 appeal, the officer in charge of the case had made a statement saying there was uncertainty



Flockton Grey: went missing after race

over the identity of the horse that won the race.

That statement, combined with photographic and new expert evidence, had made the Home Secretary's refusal last October to refer the case back to the Appeal Court unfair and unreasonable, he told Mr Justice Laws. The judge gave leave for a judicial review, saying there was "an arguable case".

At the time of the Flockton Grey scandal Mr Richardson, from Hutton, Humberside, was a 46-year-old businessman who had built up a £4 million fortune. He made his first £1,000 during National Service by cutting soldiers' hair for a shilling each.

He set up in business repairing farm machinery and manufacturing sacks, but claimed to have made at least £1 million from betting on horses. In 1960 he went bankrupt, but set up racing stables in Belgium and carried on betting, recovering some of his lost fortune and becoming a millionaire again.

In March 1982, a heavily backed horse purporting to be the two-year-old Flockton Grey won the five-furlong race at Leicester by 20 lengths at 10-1.

After an investigation, race officials alleged that the race, for two-year-old horses, had actually been won by Good Hand, a three-year-old ringer with an almost identical appearance to Flockton Grey.

Kenneth Richardson, together with his racing manager Colin Mathison, then 46, and a companion, Peter Boddy, were subsequently charged with conspiring to defraud bookmakers. It was alleged that they had given the winning horse a false identity in a betting coup.

At his trial, when he was defended by George Carman, QC, Mr Richardson claimed the horse was Flockton Grey, but the horse had disappeared after the race and before the stewards' inquiry, prompted by the winning margin.

The only evidence that remained was a photograph of the winner, with its mouth open, taken by a local photographer. Evidence from veterinary surgeons said the horse had the teeth of a three-year-old.

SIMON WALKER



Elaine Paige was preparing for a sunshine break in the Caribbean yesterday after it was confirmed she is to take over the starring role in Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's hit musical *Sunset Boulevard* at a reported £25,000 a week. Fresh from the hairdresser's in London, Paige said: "I'm about to go off to Antigua next weekend. I thought I might as well play a bit before I embark on this." The show is expected to be taxing and she said: "I'll run on the beach every day to get fitter and swim a lot to help me prepare for it." Paige, 43, described the part of silent screen star Norma Desmond as the "best role in the West End without doubt" for a woman in musical theatre. "When I first saw the show I thought 'yikes' because I could see immediately what there is in the character. She's rather grand and bossy and it will be fun to camp around." Paige will replace the American star Betty Buckley, who is moving to the production in New York, from May 1. She has already had a six-week try-out: she stepped in at three weeks' notice last December to cover for Buckley at the Adelphi Theatre while she was in hospital for an appendectomy. She is the fourth singer to play the heroine of Billy Wilder's classic 1950 film, in which a Hollywood star's limited grip on reality disintegrates into madness.

Paige heads into the Sunset starring role

Strangled woman's boyfriend dies in car

BY PAUL WILKINSON

THE body of a carpet fitter wanted by detectives after his former girlfriend was strangled has been found in a car 300 miles away.

Brian Cuthbertson, 24, was slumped in the passenger seat of an X-registered Ford Capri. The car was parked at a service station at Alnwick, Northumberland, 25 miles from his family's village of Dudley. He is thought to have died from a drug overdose.

Mr Cuthbertson had been missing since Phaedra Walker left her parents' home at Cookham, Berkshire, to meet him last Saturday. Her body was found on Monday at a nearby beauty spot.

Miss Walker, 24, a care worker, had returned to her family after her relationship with Mr Cuthbertson ended earlier this year. He faced a charge of causing a pensioner's death by dangerous driving last month and was said to be distraught at the ending of their relationship.

Miss Walker was last seen leaving her parents' house to meet him for a discussion on the sale of their home at Booker, Buckinghamshire. Mr Cuthbertson was later seen driving her red MG Metro alone. The next day it was found in Knightsbridge, central London.

John Ord, the Alnwick service station owner, said staff noticed the Capri on Tuesday but did not notify police until yesterday. "This place is often used like a municipal car park, with people playing golf or getting lifts and leaving their cars here."

Avalanche victims bring mountain death toll to 15

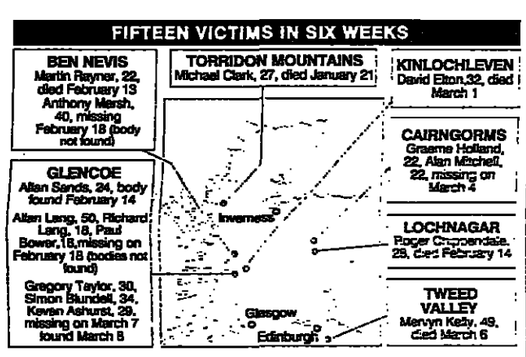
BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE death toll on Scotland's mountains rose to fifteen victims in six weeks yesterday as rescuers recovered the bodies of three men from Glencoe. Two others, missing since Saturday in the Cairngorms, are now presumed to be dead.

The bodies found by mountain rescue teams on Buachaille Etive Mor in Glencoe are believed to be Gregory Taylor, 30, from Manchester, Simon Blundell, 34, from Bolton and Kevan Ashurst, 29, from Cheshire.

The three men had not been seen since Saturday but were only reported missing yesterday when they failed to turn up for work. Relatives of the men were travelling to Scotland yesterday to identify the bodies. The dead men are believed to have been swept to their deaths in an avalanche. Their climbing equipment was found near by.

Buchaille Etive Mor has claimed the lives of six climbers this year. Allan Lang, 50, his son Richard, 18, and Paul Bower, 18, are also thought to have succumbed to an avalanche three weeks ago. Their bodies have still not been found. Civilian mountain rescue teams, augmented by nine teams of sniffer-dogs and a Royal Navy helicopter from *HMS Gannet* at Prestwick, worked in hazardous conditions yesterday. The avalanche warning for the area was scale five, the most risky category and there were fears that the blade of the helicopter might set off an avalanche.



It took rescuers six hours of prodding with long aluminum poles to locate the bodies. The three men had chatted to rescue teams on Saturday before their trip and had told them their names. But the search for the men began only on Tuesday, after colleagues reported them missing.

A second rescue mission for Graeme Holland, 22, and Alan Mitchell, 22, from Cumbria was scaled down yesterday. The two climbers are thought to have gone missing in the Cairngorms on Saturday but as they left no record of their intended route, rescuers have had to cover a wide area. It is possible that the pair are camping.

Fourteen of the deaths on the mountain this year have occurred in the last four weeks. But despite the intense activity on the mountains, the death toll so far this year is in line with 1994 when only 28 people died. It was one of the best years on the hills for mountaineers. In 1993 the death toll was 62.

Alf Ingram, of the Mountain Rescue Committee for Scotland, says "The problem is that people's expectations of survival are high and there is an over-estimation of what rescuers can achieve."

☐ Another rescue mission was launched late yesterday after two hill-walkers on the 3,700ft Creag Meagaidh heard cries for help.

Motorists warned to beware ice and snow

BY EMMA WILKINS

SNOW and black ice made driving hazardous in south-east England and parts of the North yesterday. Overnight frost was expected to bring further problems on the roads today.

With snow, sleet and rain showers forecast to persist over the next few days, AA Roadwatch urged motorists to drive with caution.

As parts of Kent, Sussex and Hampshire recovered from heavy snowfalls, the National Rivers Authority said that many rivers in the South East were in danger of flooding. In Kent, ploughs cleared roads of six inches of snow.

In Devon, up to three inches of snow fell along the west of Exmoor, halting school buses.

In Cumbria snow ploughs and gritters worked through the night to keep one lane of the M6 open between Tebay and Shap. Passes over fells were closed at Hard Knott, Wrynose, Kirkstone, Honister and Hartside.

In Scotland up to three inches of snow was hampering drivers on many roads in Dumfries and Galloway, although most routes were open by yesterday morning.

Forecast, page 24

Satellite may hold murder clue

BY RICHARD DUCE

SATELLITE pictures of Kenya may hold a vital clue for John Ward in his seven-year quest to bring his daughter's killers to justice. Mr Ward, whose daughter Julie, 28, was murdered while she was on safari on the Masai Mara reserve in 1988, will go to east Africa later this month to plot map co-ordinates before he orders high-resolution pictures of the area.

He knows exactly where his daughter was last seen alive, where her jeep was found and where he eventually found her body. With those co-ordinates and the relevant dates Mr Ward hopes that he can trace satellite photographs that will show the movements of his daughter's jeep and other traffic in the area before she was killed.

Such pictures normally cost £1,500 each but Mr Ward, 60, from Suffolk, said yesterday he had made contact with commercial organisations prepared to let him have the information for next to nothing. There is a growing market in satellite images among oil companies and governments keen to monitor everything from crops in fields to coastal erosion. Scores of satellites capable of "seeing" the earth's surface in extraordinary detail have been in orbit for several years. They are mainly French, Russian and American although Mr Ward would not say who would be helping him.

"There is a missing week before she died and there are conflicting stories as to her whereabouts," Mr Ward said. "If we can track her movements it could be very helpful. Kenyan maps are not that accurate, so I need to go to the area to get the correct grid references."

Two Kenyan gamekeepers stood trial in 1992 for Miss Ward's murder and were acquitted.

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



Summer style

HOT TIPS ON WHAT TO WEAR
— A 40-PAGE FASHION GUIDE
IN THE
MAGAZINE

ROAD TEST: THE NEW £200,000
BENTLEY AZURE
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CAR 95

THE SEVEN-SECTION TIMES IS 30p
ON SATURDAY

Parents support nursery teacher

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

PARENTS are rallying to support a nursery teacher subject to disciplinary action after accusations that she bound and gagged a rowdy four-year-old with sticky tape.

Mothers of children at Lea Bank Junior and Infant School, Birmingham, have launched a campaign on behalf of Christine Dingley, who is on sick leave, calling for her early return. The boy concerned, Nathaniel Thomas, an asthmatic, yesterday made a boisterous five-minute appearance on GMTV. As his parents Dean and Joanne insisted that their son was not out of control, he proved a handful for the presenters.

The boy fidgeted repeatedly before grabbing Anthea Turner's notes and bolting, dragging microphones behind. Mr Thomas said: "Nathan is a four-year-old boy, not eight or nine and out of control. If that was the case I would have sympathy for the teacher. But he is just a kid."

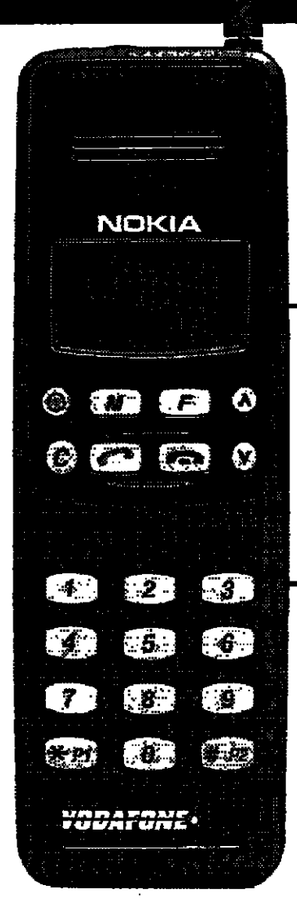
Parents at Lea Bank are considering collecting a petition in support of Mrs Dingley and have written her letters of support through Jenny Thomas, the head teacher. They refuse to condone the use of sticky tape for the punishment of young children but have questioned the boy's behaviour.

Teachers at the school are understood to be upset by the treatment of Mrs Dingley and frustrated that they are not allowed to put her case in public. Birmingham education authority officials are investigating the incident.



Nathaniel Thomas on television yesterday

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هكذا من الاصل

Anglicans revive plan to unite with Methodists

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Church of England and the Methodist Church are to begin moves towards unity, it was announced yesterday.

After two days of talks in Suffolk, their representatives agreed "to develop practical ways of growing together". They said that they intended "to face frankly their remaining differences and find ways of overcoming them".

If these two denominations, which constitute most of Protestant Christianity in England, were to reunite, the shape of Christianity would be radically altered in this country and its effects would be felt worldwide.

Union would raise the possible introduction of bishops into Methodism, while many believe that the tightly ordered Anglican parochial system would benefit from flexibility along the lines of Methodist circuits and districts, which are more open to growth and change.

The talks come more than 20 years after the Church of England failed to approve a scheme of union between the two churches. They separated in 1795, four years after the death of the founder of Methodism, John Wesley, an Anglican clergyman, had never intended to start a separate church and always considered himself a member of the Church of England.

The break was the eventual outcome of his decision to ordain ministers to work overseas and because of strains between Methodists and Anglicans over church organisation and structure. Some traditionalist Anglicans have been reluctant to reunite with Methodists because of doubts over the validity of Methodist orders and Holy Communion, and because it would end for the foreseeable future hopes of union with the Roman Catholic Church.

Now that the Anglicans have ordained women priests and most hardline traditionalists have left the Church, those remaining accept that unity with Rome is out of the question and are thought to be more willing to re-examine unity with Methodists.

A group meeting at Bury St Edmunds chaired by the Right Rev David Tustin, Bishop of Grimsby, and the Rev Brian Beck, secretary of the Methodist Conference, said that relations between the two churches had changed in the past 20 years. There was "considerable co-operation between the two churches in shared churches and partnerships throughout the country" and a common concern for church work in rural and inner-city areas.

The group will meet in December before presenting its findings to both churches. Unity could take many years to achieve and would have to take into account the United Reformed Church, which shares several buildings with Methodist congregations. A Church of England spokesman said that informal talks with the United Reformed Church would be held in June.



Wesley: never wanted a separate church



DES JENSON

Jeanette Smith, left, with her partner Margarette Fleming, was sacked after an anonymous call about her homosexuality

Ex-nurse to test forces' lesbian ban

A FORMER RAF nurse, sacked for being a lesbian, was yesterday granted leave to challenge her dismissal in a High Court decision that may have widespread repercussions for the Armed Forces. Jeanette Smith, 28, is the first person to be given leave to seek a judicial review on the ground that the forces' ban on homosexuals is contrary to European anti-discrimination law (Kathryn Knight writes).

Hundreds of similar cases against the Ministry of Defence are expected if she is victorious. After the hearing Miss Smith, accompanied by her girlfriend Margarette Fleming, 30, said it was a watershed for homosexual rights. "I was always hopeful and this is as a very significant day. I am doing this for all the gays and lesbians who have been discriminated against because of their sexuality," she said.

Miss Smith, from Edinburgh, signed up for nine years with the RAF in 1989, but was dismissed last November after an anonymous telephone call disclosed she was having a lesbian relationship. She had declared herself a heterosexual when she joined, and was subject to a criminal investigation, including intimate questions about her sex life.

Homosexuality ceased to be a criminal offence under military law in March last year, but the MoD policy that "homosexuality is incompatible with military service" remains.

Four gay bishops 'ready to declare their sexuality'

BY OUR RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

UP TO four more bishops, including three in diocesan and suffragan posts, might follow the example of Bishop Derek Rawcliffe and speak publicly about their homosexuality, the gay rights group OutRage! claimed last night.

Bishop Rawcliffe, who is retired, will not be disciplined for his public confession of his homosexuality, according to senior church leaders, who refused yesterday to condemn his remarks. The bishop, who first acknowledged publicly his homosexuality in a letter in the gay weekly *The Pink Paper*, where he said: "God loves us gays and lesbians equally with everyone else."

According to the gay activist Peter Tatchell, Bishop Rawcliffe is one of five bishops who have been talking to gay rights activists in OutRage! about "coming out". None of the five was named by OutRage! in the recent "outing" of ten Church of England bishops because they "seemed they might well be amenable" to going public voluntarily, according to Mr Tatchell. Mr Tatchell said: "One senior bishop in the Church of England is a sexually active gay. I had a meeting with him at his private residence in early January and urged him to come out. He is wrestling with his conscience because he fears the church and public reaction. He knows that to come out is the right thing to do."

Mr Tatchell added: "We hope other closet bishops will follow Bishop Rawcliffe's lead. It would be very wrong if he was the only one to be open, given that there are 14 others who are homosexual."

The Archbisop of York, Dr John Habgood, said that the issue of homosexuality was a "grey moral area" for the Church. He said: "There is a place for exploration of these issues by sincere Christians. It is unusual for clergymen in public to do this, but we have to recognise that there is a grey moral area here." He said that the church's position on homosexuality was clear and "a statement by a retired bishop is not going to alter that very much".

Habgood urges support for RE

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

SCHOOLS must give greater priority to religious education to avert the growth of a "morally bewildered generation", the Archbishop of York said yesterday.

In an age when many young people were turning from mainline religions to astrology and the occult, Dr John Habgood urged schools to use RE lessons to help pupils to build moral foundations for life. He called for the creation of a national RE syllabus to halt a vicious circle of decline that left the subject prey to shortages of time and staff.

The archbishop cited a report by school inspectors that said much RE teaching was dull and that the vast majority of secondary schools failed to provide enough teaching time for pupils aged 14 to 16. One in five primaries did not teach the subject at all.

Dr Habgood told a London conference: "We are in danger of producing a morally bewildered generation, and while there is no educationally valid way back to a heavy-handed moralism, there is a responsibilty on the educational world to help in building some moral foundations."

He said the argument that RE should help to teach children about right and wrong was given a new twist by a recent European study. This showed that the rise and fall of Protestant church adherence in Britain in the last 150 years closely paralleled the rise and fall in the number of indictable offences.

Dr Habgood said young people were adopting increasingly "weird and wonderful" religious ideas and RE lessons helped to provide a rational framework for these impulses. He added: "Religion is not an adjunct of the heritage industry. It is a living force in the world and a primary motivation for a large part of the world's population."

RE is a compulsory subject until 16, but schools are free to decide how much time they devote to it. Government advisers recommend that pupils aged 14 to 16 spend at least 5 per cent of their time on RE.

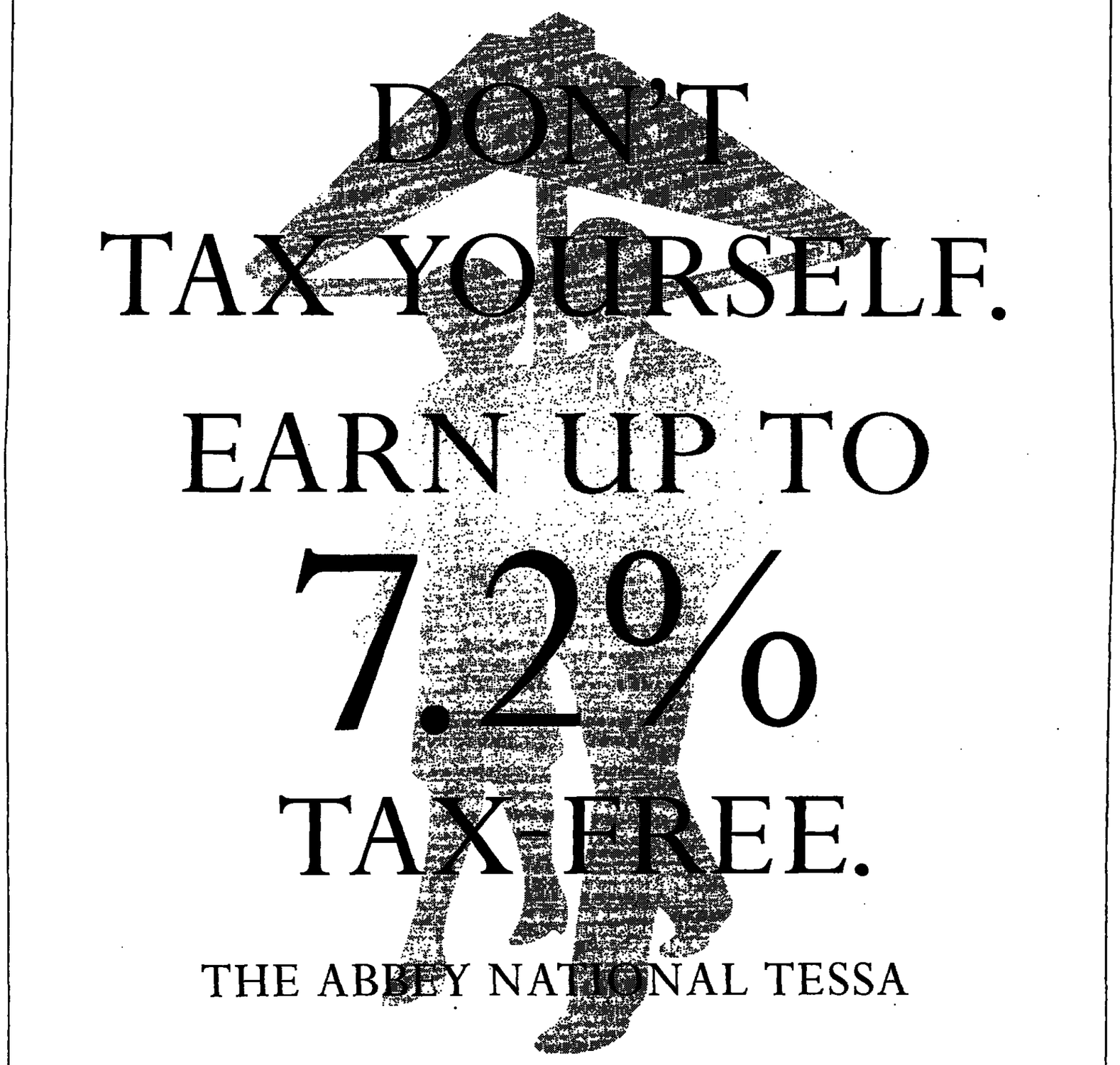
Eric Forth, the Education Minister, announced at yesterday's conference that curriculum advisers were to develop a short GCSE course. This will allow pupils aged 14 to 16 to gain a qualification in RE, equivalent to half a GCSE, without having to increase the teaching time generally devoted to the subject.

Charles Wardle MP

An article by Bernard Levin (February 21) stated that Mr Charles Wardle, MP, when he was Home Office immigration minister, had been the subject of detailed complaints by the Association of First Division Civil Servants to the head of the Civil Service, an action unprecedented "in the entire history of the Civil Service". We are glad to make clear that no such incident took place; that far from "not taking any notice of staff" Mr Wardle enjoyed the full support of his private office and that his integrity as a minister is unquestioned. In making this clear, Mr Levin and *The Times* are glad to take the opportunity to apologise for the inaccuracies.

CORRECTION

Mr John Jubb, the consultant engineer mentioned in an article (March 7), has never been a president of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.



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'Five Women To Avoid At All Costs'

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Men's Health MAGAZINE

Girls' school registers addicts to cut smoking

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

AN EXCLUSIVE independent school has gone against the growing trend of smoking among teenage girls by making them register as nicotine addicts to qualify for a daily ration of cigarettes.

Up to 50 of the 300 girls at Cobham Hall, Kent, smoked three years ago. But Rosalind McCarthy, the headmistress, said yesterday that the numbers had dropped to fewer than ten as a result of the novel approach.

The school is based in a 16th-century stately home near Gravesend, and clandestine smoking was posing a fire risk, as well as a health hazard to the pupils. Parents, who pay boarding fees of nearly £12,000 a year, have supported the move.

Fifth and sixth-formers who declare that they smoke when they join the school may register with the doctor to be issued with one or two cigarettes a day while they are weaned off the habit. They have to smoke them in the garden of the school sanitorium, under the supervision of a nurse. Mrs McCarthy said: "The nurses give them cocoa and help them through difficult times. But it is not a social occasion, and many of the girls decide that it is not worth the bother, especially when they have to stand out in the rain."

Smoking has become increasingly fashionable among teenage girls, who are receiving particular attention in health education campaigns. Recent surveys suggest that a quarter of 15-year-old girls smoke.

Mrs McCarthy said: "We have a strict no-smoking rule, but it pays to be realistic when girls arrive. When I realised how many smokers there were, we had an amnesty and decided to try to help them to give up."

Among the incentives for the Cobham Hall pupils is the possibility of positions of responsibility: smokers are banned from holding such positions. "We had one American on 40 a day who gave up to be a house captain," Mrs McCarthy said.

Foreign students, who are regular recruits to the sixth-form, now form the majority of registered smokers. The sanitorium uses nicotine patches and chewing gum, as well as counselling, to help them to give up.

Those who smoke outside the approved area risk heavy penalties, including a report to parents, but not automatic expulsion. Staff have found, however, that covert smoking has declined sharply since the registration rules were introduced.

The scheme was suspended yesterday for No Smoking Day. Mrs McCarthy said: "It has proved to be a workable policy, which I hope will lead eventually to have a completely smokeless zone here. In some schools, smoking is a problem from the first year upwards, but we are gradually getting rid of it."

Doctors renew call for tobacco advert ban

A BAN on all cigarette advertising would cut the death rate from cancer and other smoking-related illnesses, according to Dr Vivienne Nathanson, head of health policy at the BMA.

Choosing National No Smoking Day to call on the Government to support the medical profession's efforts to reduce smoking, she said: "It is important to look at tobacco advertising bans and stopping sports sponsorship, all the things that encourage people to start smoking. We need to stop people from starting and then we can concentrate on helping others to quit."

The day coincided with the publication of research showing that cancer will affect more than ten million people worldwide by 2000. Lung cancer will account for almost a million new cases and the vast majority will be fatal, according to the Cancer Research Campaign.

TONY WHITE



A Victorian masterpiece that was once abandoned in an alleyway by someone who bought it for its frame is to be auctioned by Christie's in New York (Alexandra Frean writes). *The Finding of Moses* by Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema is considered the masterpiece of the artist's late period and is expected to fetch $2.5-$3 million (£1.6-£2 million) when it goes on sale in May. The oil, which shows Moses being carried to the Pharaoh's palace, is one of the Alma-Tadema's largest works, measuring 54 by 84 inches. It was commissioned by the engineer Sir John Aird in 1902 and took two years to complete. In the late 1950s it was discovered, dumped in an alley in Duke Street, St James's, London, shortly after being sold by the Newman Gallery. It's elaborate gilt frame was missing. The Newman Gallery took it back and in 1960 it was bought by Allen Funt, the Hollywood scriptwriter and creator of the *Candid Camera* television show. He sold it in 1973 to its present owner, an American private collector. It will be on view at Christie's in London until March 10.

£2m abandoned art

Break in livestock journey raises stress, study shows

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

ANIMALS being transported long distances may suffer more by being unloaded for a rest than by being left in the truck, research has shown. A team at the Bristol Veterinary School funded by the Agriculture Ministry has shown that by far the most stressful part of the journey is being loaded on to the trucks.

The heart rate of sheep rises from 90 to 135 beats per minute during loading, when the animals are in close contact with humans and are forced into an alien environment where they mix with sheep from other flocks. Cortisol, a chemical released into the blood during stressful situations, also rises sharply.

Doctors Toby Knowles and Paul Warriss found that heart rate and cortisol levels remained high for about 90 minutes. After about nine hours, the sheep had settled and were able to lie down. The amounts of an enzyme called CPK in the blood, which gives an indication of tiredness, show that at this stage the sheep are not physically stressed. The results suggests that, for sheep, breaking journeys after eight hours would add to stress.

Similar results have been obtained for cattle by Dr Warriss, who says that reducing journey times for cattle from 15 hours to ten would not bring about much improvement in welfare.

Pigs suffer most but are seldom sent far. Dr Warriss says in this week's issue of *New Scientist*.

☐ Air France was fined £1,000 for allowing two cows to suffocate to death in an aircraft hold at Heathrow. They died when doors on the Boeing 747 froze shut, preventing technicians bringing in air conditioning equipment, Uxbridge magistrates were told. Air France admitted causing unnecessary suffering.

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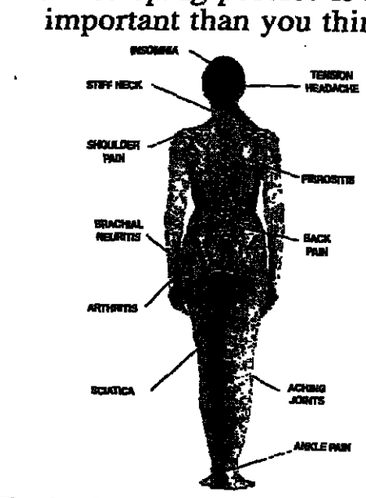
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TEMPUR PRESSURE RELIEVING MATTRESS & PILLOW

42-year sentence by special arrangement

Macmillan insisted on long jail term if Blake went on trial

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE traitor George Blake was sentenced to 42 years in prison in 1961, the longest term given in British legal history, after a secret arrangement between the Macmillan government and the Lord Chief Justice.

According to a biography of a former British intelligence chief, the Secret Intelligence Service (MI6) concluded that Blake had betrayed at least 400 agents of whom more than 40 had been killed. No mention of the deaths was made during the Old Bailey trial of Blake, a middle-ranking MI6 officer, who had expected to be sentenced to a maximum of 14 years.

However Sir Reginald Manningham-Buller, the Attorney-General, passed the information about the 40 deaths discreetly to Lord Parker, the Lord Chief Justice, who presided in the trial. He sentenced Blake to five 14-year prison terms, three to run consecutively.

Tom Bower, author of *The Perfect English Spy, Sir Dick White and the Secret War 1935-90* (Heinemann), was granted a series of interviews with Sir Dick. Sir Dick told him the Government wanted to hit Blake "with the biggest hammer possible". Sir Reginald proposed that Blake be charged on five counts, separating five periods of his service. That enabled Lord Parker to pass five sentences.

Mr Bower, whose book is published later this month, wrote: "Blake was stunned. The Government fiercely denied any suggestion of a link between the unproven deaths and the sentence. Since no member of the public had heard the prosecutor's speech [the trial was in camera], the denials were accepted."



Blake: betrayed at least 400 agents

Sir Dick, the only person to head both MI5 and MI6, said Blake was far worse than Philby in terms of the agents and information he betrayed. Blake, who escaped from Wormwood Scrubs in October 1966 and lives in Moscow, was posted to Berlin in 1955 and was responsible for recruiting Soviet agents. He also collected material that could be used for blackmail.

The biography reveals that Peter Lunn, MI6 station chief in Berlin, had introduced a card index of agents. In the event of an alert or arrest, the duty officer would pull the card and see which of 50 MI6 officers should be summoned.

Mr Bower said: "Occasionally Blake was the night duty officer. He copied the names of all the service's agents and, at regular meetings in East Berlin, passed the contents of SIS's whole structure to his KGB controller."

Blake came under suspicion in 1961 after a Polish military intelligence officer revealed there were two spies in Britain. According to Sir Dick, who died in 1993, Macmillan was against putting Blake on trial. But Sir Dick warned him that "the cost of doing nothing would be enormous both within the service and with the Americans".

In return for a prosecution, Macmillan insisted that arrangements be made to render Blake liable to imprisonment for more than the maximum 14 years. Blake had been charged under the Official Secrets Act with an offence that did not allow a longer sentence to be passed.



SIMON WALKER

Suzanne Judge with her husband yesterday. "For me, I can't turn the clock back"

Breast cancer victim awarded £215,000 attacks 'care lottery'

BY EDWARD GORMAN

A WOMAN who received £215,000 compensation after a general surgeon failed to diagnose her breast cancer called yesterday for specialist clinics.

Suzanne Judge, 38, a mother of two, said that other women should not have to face the same ordeal because of the "lottery of care" for women with breast problems. "For me personally, I can't turn the clock back," she said. "For other women, I would like to see a network of specialist breast cancer clinics. This would give them the best possible chances of a cure and treatment."

Mrs Judge, of St Ives, Cambridgeshire, had been referred to Clive Quick, consultant surgeon at Hinchingbrooke Hospital, Huntingdon. He told her that the lump was not sinister. Nine months later he agreed to remove it because Mrs Judge was in great pain. After the operation he discovered the lump to be cancerous.

Huntingdon Health Authority denied liability but the High Court held last year that Mr Quick had been negligent. In an out-of-court settlement this week, Mrs Judge received £215,000 for the loss of an 80 per cent chance of surviving the disease.

She believes the blame lies not just with a general surgeon who was not up to date with the latest diagnostic techniques in breast cancer, but also with a system which meant that she was not referred to a specialist at the outset. "Many women aren't referred to a specialist breast surgeon ... because of where they live."

She has discovered that there were tests which would have detected her cancer, but they were not available at Hinchingbrooke.

Mrs Judge is receiving chemotherapy and has undergone a mastectomy. In six weeks' time scans will tell whether the chemotherapy is likely to give her a chance of survival.

Her husband Stephen, 39, a former driving instructor, has stayed at home for the past year to look after her and their children Samuel, 10, and Eleanor, 8. He said he was bitter at the way his wife has been treated. "I just think we've been let down completely and it's put a great strain on our life and family."

Official day for women to have their say

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN

WOMEN had a chance to celebrate their achievements yesterday as hundreds of events, including marches, seminars, exhibitions and concerts, marked International Women's Day.

The Scotsman newspaper — the last national daily with the word "man" in its title — changed its name for the day to *The Scotswoman* and turned over all senior editorial posts to female members of staff.

Jan Brierley, the paper's assistant news editor who became news editor for a day, said the experiment had proved very useful. "I don't think it is just tokenism and it may lead to changes in the longer term in the way we look at news because it gave everybody the chance to see how women work and react to stories."

In Birmingham, the city council has organised a month-long women's arts festival. There are similar initiatives in a number of other venues, such as Southampton and Kirklees, West Yorkshire.

A special women's service was held at St Mary's Church in Swansea and was followed by a vigil; a flower planting ceremony took place at the Victoria Plantation Gardens in Norwich.

At Westminster, MPs debated women's wages. Anne Campbell, the Labour MP for Cambridge, called for women to be given tax relief for childcare facilities. Many women were prevented from making a contribution to the economy because of the huge cost of childcare, she said.

Flood killed farmer who refused to leave home

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A FARMER who ignored pleas by his family to leave his flooded home was found drowned in the cottage the following day, an inquest was told yesterday.

Clifford Greenwood, 67, sat in a picnic chair, wearing his flat cap, drinking whisky and watching television as floodwater rose rapidly in his sitting room. His feet were propped up on a brick, the inquest in Harrogate, North Yorkshire, was told. Moira Clough, girlfriend of Mr Greenwood's son, said the farmer refused four times to leave his cottage.

Mr Greenwood, who hated water and could not swim, was adamant he would not leave his cottage in Pool, Wharfedale. Rapidly melting snow on February 1 caused a rush of water from nearby hillsides and a flash flood in the River Wharfe — water was 18in deep in Mr Greenwood's sitting room.

The dead man's son, Michael Greenwood, said the river flooded every four years but this was the worst he had seen. He said: "I pleaded with my father to leave his home but he remained stubborn and refused to come to my farm." He was found dead on the waterlogged carpet in the living room.

Colin Moore, the Coroner, recording a verdict of misadventure, said tests showed that Mr Greenwood was twice over the drink-drive alcohol limit when he drowned. He assumed that his flimsy chair toppled into the water and he was held down by his heavy wet clothing.

Briton pays £125 to have limb buried

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A BRITISH man who had his leg amputated in Spain had to pay £125 to have the limb buried in the local municipal graveyard.

Tris Warren, whose husband Donald, 70, is still recovering in hospital, said she was shocked when hours after the operation a doctor told her the hospital did not want the limb and arranged for two undertakers to see her. They asked her to select a suitable casket.

Mr Warren, who has now lost both legs, had the second amputated at the Los Arcos Hospital in Murcia because of ulcers and poor blood circulation. The couple moved to Spain seven years ago.

Mrs Warren said: "The undertakers told me they could do a box and arrange a burial at the local cemetery for 25,000 pesetas. We now have the receipt for the leg which lies in the local cemetery with a little plaque on it bearing Donald's name. I make a point of asking my friend to put flowers on it."

A spokesman for the British consulate in Benidorm said there was no legal obligation to have limbs interred but it was normal for an undertaker to dispose of them if the hospital had no crematorium.

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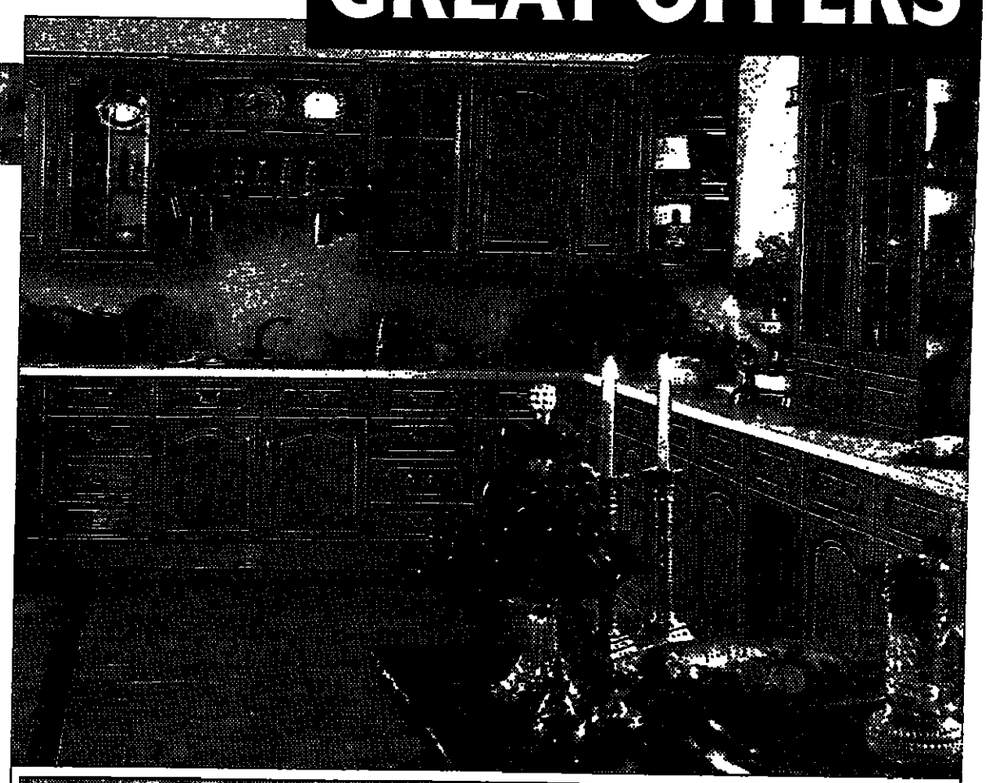
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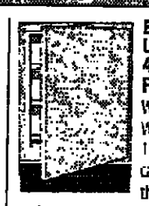


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Gummer calls for stricter curbs on greenhouse gases

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN is leading the way in curbing greenhouse gas emissions, but more draconian action is needed if the world is to be saved from rising temperatures and sea levels, John Gummer said yesterday.

The Environment Secretary, who was unveiling plans to cut power station, industrial and traffic emissions beyond the turn of the century, admitted he was "a fair old sceptic on the doom and gloom prognostications". But, he added: "There is increased confidence in the scientific advice ... that if emissions continue to grow we will alter the climate of the planet. The information we now have must lead one to take very seriously the concern about climate change."

Mr Gummer said that fresh forecasts from the Department of Trade and Industry show Britain should meet targets agreed at the Rio Earth Summit three years ago for curbing greenhouse gas emissions by the year 2000.

Earlier forecasts showed that Britain needed to cut carbon dioxide emissions by at least 10 million tonnes to return to 1990 levels. Now it seems that emissions will be lower than 1990 levels by seven to 14 million tonnes.

Mr Gummer praised the Government's liberalisation of the electricity and energy markets for helping to achieve the sharp cuts. Both he and Tim Eggar, the Energy Minister, said the switch away from coal to gas-fired generation had delivered not only substantial efficiencies but larger than foreseen environmental improvements. Mr Eggar said the hiving off of nuclear power, a form of generation that produces no greenhouse gases, had led to nuclear output rising "by no less than 40 per cent to record levels".

Mr Gummer said: "This is a triumph for the marketplace and a triumph we foretold."

Lower world oil prices and reduced energy demand because of milder winters are also reducing emissions, and environmental groups say big cuts in carbon emissions could not have been foreseen before privatisation. They say the fall is caused by luck rather than good management.

Dr Pat Green of Friends of the Earth said yesterday: "If they are going to meet their climate-change commitments, then this has been nothing to do with the Government."

Mathew Spencer of Greenpeace said: "The Government has done virtually nothing to achieve this target. If proper measures were introduced to encourage energy efficient use then the UK could meet a 20 per cent cut in carbon dioxide emissions within 20 years."

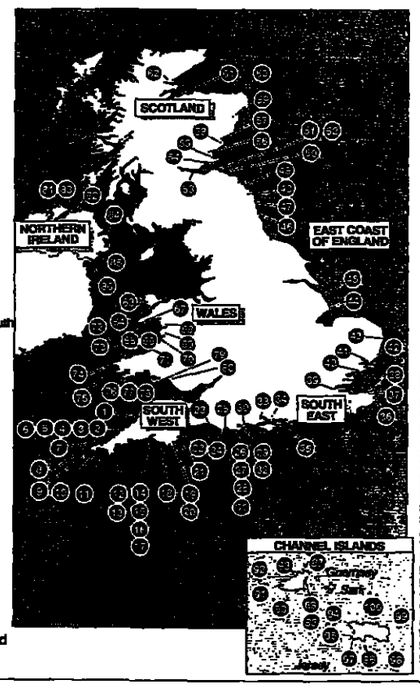
Mr Gummer told a news conference in London that, depsite the achievements, there was no room for complacency. Trade and industry forecasts show emissions of greenhouse gases from Britain will begin rising steadily beyond 2000 unless tougher action is taken.

Later this month, 100 nations meet in Berlin to discuss climate-change conventions and Mr Gummer said Britain would lead the way by proposing a 5 to 10 per cent reduction in 1990 emission levels among OECD countries by 2010.

This is the first time that Britain has accepted the need for action beyond the turn of the century and Andrew Warren of the Association for the Conservation of Energy said: "While there may be disagreement on whether Britain will meet its 2000 targets, the initiative beyond 2000 is welcome. It restores Britain's position to the kind of leadership we had with this convention when Mrs Thatcher was Prime Minister."

WHERE SWIMMERS MAY SAFELY BATHE

These are the 100 beaches considered to have the best bathing water in Reader's *Digest Good Beach Guide 1995*



SOUTH WEST
1. Sandy Mouth, Bude , Cornwall
2. Daymer Bay , Cornwall
3. Rock Beach, Padstow, Cornwall
4. Harlyn Bay, Cornwall
5. Constantine Bay, Treyarnon, Cornwall
6. Treyarnon Bay, Padstow, Cornwall
7. The Towans, Hayle, St Ives, Cornwall
8. Whitesand Bay, Sennen Cove, Cornwall
9. Praa Sands, Ashton, Helston, Cornwall
10. Gunwalloe Cove, Cornwall
11. Kennack Sands, Kuggar, Cornwall
12. St Mawes, Cornwall
13. Bow or Vault Beach, Goran Haven, Cornwall
14. Challaborough, Devon
15. Bigbury-on-Sea, Devon
16. Thurlestone North, Devon
17. South Milton Sands, Thurleston, Devon
18. Mill Bay, near Salcombe, Devon
19. Slapton Sands, Devon
20. Blackpool Sands, Stoke Fleming, Devon
21. Shaldstone Beach, Brixham, Devon
22. Babbacombe Bay, Torquay, Devon
23. West Bay (West), Dorset
24. Weymouth Central, Dorset
25. Durdle Door (East and West), Dorset
26. Studland, Dorset
27. Shell Bay, Dorset
28. Poole Sandbanks, Dorset
29. Durley Chine, Bournemouth, Dorset
30. Fisherman's Walk (Southbourne), Bournemouth
31. Southbourne, Bournemouth
32. Hengistbury Head, East Bournemouth

SOUTH EAST
33. Stokes Bay, Gosport, Hampshire
34. Hayling Island, West Beach, Hampshire
35. Selsey Bill, West Sussex
36. Joss Bay, Broadstairs Kent
37. Botany Bay, Chilhamville, Kent
38. Minnis Bay, Birchington, Kent
39. Sheerness (Beach Street), Kent
40. Brightlingsea, Essex
41. Felixstowe (South and North), Suffolk
42. Southwold (The Denes), Suffolk
43. Lowestoft, South Beach, Suffolk

EAST COAST OF ENGLAND
44. Skegness, Lincolnshire
45. Sutton-on-Sea, Lincolnshire
46. Druridge Bay, Northumberland
47. Low Newton (Newton Haven), Northumberland
48. Beadnell Bay, Northumberland
49. Bamburgh and Seahouses, Northumberland

SCOTLAND
50. Thorntonloch, Lothian
51. White Sands Bay, near Dunbar, Lothian
52. Belhaven Beach, Dunbar, Lothian
53. Silversands, Aberdour, Fife
54. Shell Bay, Earlsferry, Fife
55. West Sands, St Andrews, Fife
56. Tentsmuir Sands, Fife
57. Lunan Bay, near Dundee, Tayside
58. Montrose, Tayside
59. Balmedie, Grampian
60. St Combs, Grampian
61. Nairn Central, Highland
62. Dornoch, Highland

WALES
63. Rhosneigr (Traeth Crigyll), Gwynedd
64. Llanddwyn Beach, Niwbwrch, Anglesey, Gwynedd
65. Aberdaron Beach, Gwynedd
66. Porth Neigwl Beach, Gwynedd
67. Abersoch, Gwynedd
68. Barmouth, Gwynedd
69. Fairbourne, Powys
70. Borth, Dyfed
71. Llanrhystud South, Dyfed
72. Mwnt, Cardigan, Dyfed
73. Aberaeddy Bay (At Slipway), Dyfed
74. Whitesands Bay, St David's, Dyfed
75. Marloes Sands, Marloes, Preseli, Dyfed
76. Freshwater West, near Pembroke, Dyfedd
77. Freshwater East, Dyfedd
78. Manorbier Beach, Dyfed
79. Rhossili Bay, Rhossili, West Glamorgan
80. Port Eynon, West Glamorgan

NORTHERN IRELAND
81. Magilligan Strand, Benone, Co Londonderry
82. The Strand, Portstewart, Co Londonderry
83. Mill Strand and Curran Strand, Portrush, Co Antrim
84. Crawfordsburn, Bangor, Co Down
85. Tyrella Beach, Clough, Co Down
86. Nicholson's Strand, Kilkeel, Co Down

CHANNEL ISLANDS
87. Pembroke Bay, Guernsey
88. Havelet Bay, St Peter Port, Guernsey
89. Fermain, Guernsey
90. Petit Bot Bay, Guernsey
91. L'Eree, Guernsey
92. Vazon Beach, Guernsey
93. Port Soif Bay, West Coast, Guernsey
94. St Ouen's Bay, Jersey
95. Beaupori, Jersey
96. St Brelade's Bay, Jersey
97. Portelet Bay, Jersey
98. Green Island, Jersey
99. Archirondel, St Catherine's Bay, Jersey
100. Greve de Lecq, Jersey

Most beaches fail water safety tests

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

BARELY 11 per cent of Britain's beaches are definitely safe for bathing, according to an annual report on the cleanliness of seawater published yesterday.

Only 100 out of 907 beaches listed in the study by the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) are recommended to bathers. This, however, is an improvement on last year when only 71 beaches satisfied the society's water quality standards.

Blackpool, Brighton, Hastings and Great Yarmouth are among resorts cited as not meeting even minimum standards set by the European Union, which are 20 times less strict than those required by the guide. Blackpool, with six million visitors a year, is described as "a very badly polluted area which remains highly unsuitable for bathing".

Terry Gregson, Blackpool's chief environmental health officer, said: "It is nonsense to describe Blackpool as badly polluted. The sands are kept spotlessly clean and water quality off three of the four main beaches met the EU mandatory standard last year. The other beach only just fell short."

North West Water said that a £160 million sewage plant being built at Fleetwood, which is due to start operating next year, should take water quality above the compulsory EU standard permanently. The plant will collect all sewage in the Blackpool area, treat it and carry it three miles out to sea.

The MCS bases its guide on data supplied by the National Rivers Authority and other bodies that regularly test seawater for potentially harmful bacteria. The basic EU requirement is that 19 out of 20 samples of water taken from May 1 to September 30 must not exceed a coliform bacteria count. To qualify as a good beach in the guide, which is published each year by *Reader's Digest*, all 20 samples must comply. The samples must also satisfy stricter controls on coliform and streptococcus bacteria levels, which the EU regards only as guidelines.

Chris Berry, the MCS's chief pollution officer, said: "Bathing waters that meet only the EU's minimum standard still pose a significant risk to health.

"Tougher EU standards are due to come into force next year, and if sewage treatment practices do not alter, up to 30 per cent of beaches will then fall short of basic legal requirements. As it is, we reckon that 142 beaches fail the current mandatory standard."

The Environment Department said the guide gave an unfair impression by listing hundreds of beaches that are seldom used for bathing. "Of the 458 British beaches designated under the EU bathing water directive, 376, or 82 per cent, complied last year with the mandatory standard," a spokesman said. "The scientific evidence is that such water is entirely safe."

Jonathon Porritt, founder of Friends of the Earth, who launched the guide yesterday, urged people to vote with their feet by going only to the safest beaches, thus showing that they were not prepared "to swim in the equivalent of a marine lavatory".



Bude beach in Cornwall: named as safe for bathing

U-turn possible on bypass plans

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

ROAD schemes approved after long public inquiries may be scrapped because the Treasury is seeking further cuts in the £1.8 billion-a-year road programme.

The Transport Department has already been forced to trim £200 million from its annual road spending. Six big schemes due to start this year have been postponed.

All 360 remaining trunk road projects are now being reassessed, including those that have passed their planning stages. The review was disclosed in a letter from Jonathan Aitken, the Treasury Chief Secretary, in response to inquiries from a transport consultant.

The wide scope of the review represents a further victory for the Treasury. Last year John Watts, the Minister for Public Transport, said that road schemes that had gone through planning inquiries would be exempt. The new restrictions could threaten high-profile projects due to start this year, including the £30 million widening of the A40 Western Avenue in west London, the £60 million Salisbury bypass and the £20 million Morecombelake bypass in Dorset.

The review is being carried out in the light of a government committee report that said new roads often generated extra traffic rather than eased congestion. The report has shifted the balance in negotiations between the Transport Department and the Treasury.

In his letter Mr Aitken said: "All schemes in preparation will be assessed and, if the assessment shows induced traffic is likely to be significant, it will be taken into account in scheme appraisal. This includes schemes which may have passed through the stage of public inquiry." Mr Aitken hinted that even projects that have already started could be abandoned.

Scientists seek clues to jump in allergic illnesses

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE big increase in allergic illness seen in the past 30 years is showing no signs of slowing, experts said yesterday. Allergies such as asthma and hay fever are continuing to rise around the world despite efforts to curb pollution, the principal suspect.

Latest figures from a study in Aberdeen show one in five schoolchildren affected by asthma compared with 16 per cent in the late 1980s and 2-3 per cent in the 1960s. Studies in Wales show a similar trend.

Professor Robert Davies, Professor of Immunology at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, told a news conference on hay fever and pollution that it was vital to find the cause. "There has been an extraordinary increase in all allergic disease over the last 30 years. We are now facing a major epidemic."

Professor Davies said evidence was growing that vehicle pollution plays a crucial role. Studies in Germany have found that hay fever is four times as common in the clean city of Munich, where car ownership is high, as in the industrially polluted city of Leipzig, with low car ownership.

Professor Davies said the growth in allergy may be linked to indoor pollution caused by modern lifestyles. A study of 6,000 children in Germany found that hay fever was twice as common in homes heated with gas or oil, which produces nitrogen dioxide, as in those heated with wood or coal-burning stoves. "The type of pollution may be the key," he said.

Laboratory studies at St Bartholomew's showed that breathing in high levels of nitrogen dioxide primed cells in the lining of the nose to respond to pollen.

Dr Duncan Laxen, managing director of Air Quality Consultants, said that there was growing concern about the effects of fine airborne particles produced by vehicle exhausts. "Around 10,000 deaths a year may be attributed to this pollutant," he said.

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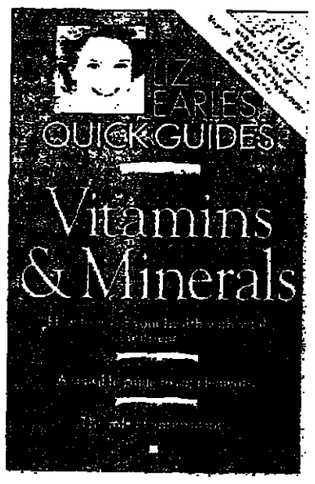
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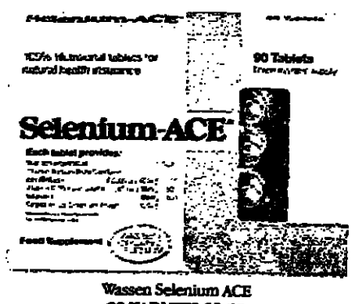
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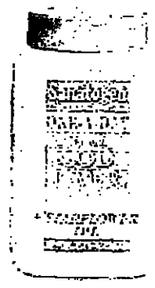
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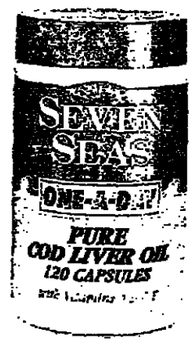


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Scientists seek clues to jump in allergic illnesses

Royal friend questioned over charity fundraising

By Robin Young

THE Charity Commission is investigating complaints that a children's charity chaired by Major General Graham Hollands, a friend of the Duchess of York, has raised up to £1 million and failed to account for its distribution.

The Child Aid Foundation agrees that it is "a reasonable guesstimate" that it has raised about £1 million since its creation in June 1993. A spokeswoman said yesterday she could not provide figures to contest claims that the foundation has only distributed £30,000 to various causes but said: "That figure sounds very low."

Four charities — the Meningitis Trust, Meningitis Research, the Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths, and the British Institute for Brain Injured Children — have written to the commission alleging that the Child Aid Foundation has used their names in fundraising without authorisation, plagiarised their publicity material, or claimed credit for their work without giving them any financial support.

A BBC1 television programme, *Here and Now*, screened last night, alleged that the foundation had failed to furnish satisfactory accounts, and had refused to provide explanations during a three-month investigation. The charity was set up by John Tungay, a South African, to "advance education and relieve poverty, distress and suffering of children in any part of the world". Mr Tungay resigned as the foundation's director-general two weeks ago because of "continuing ill health". His wife Paula resigned as a trustee of the charity at the same time.

June Beeden, a spokeswoman for the foundation, said yesterday that Mr Tungay had suffered recurring bouts of pneumonia, and had undergone a second operation on one of his eyes on Monday, but that his present whereabouts were unknown. Miss Beeden said: "Impropriety is not in question."

Major General Hollands has been chairman of the foundation's trustees, who are legally responsible for its affairs, since February 1994. He was chairman of the Combined Services Winter Sports Association when the Duchess of York was its patron, and is director of Children in Crisis, her personal charity.

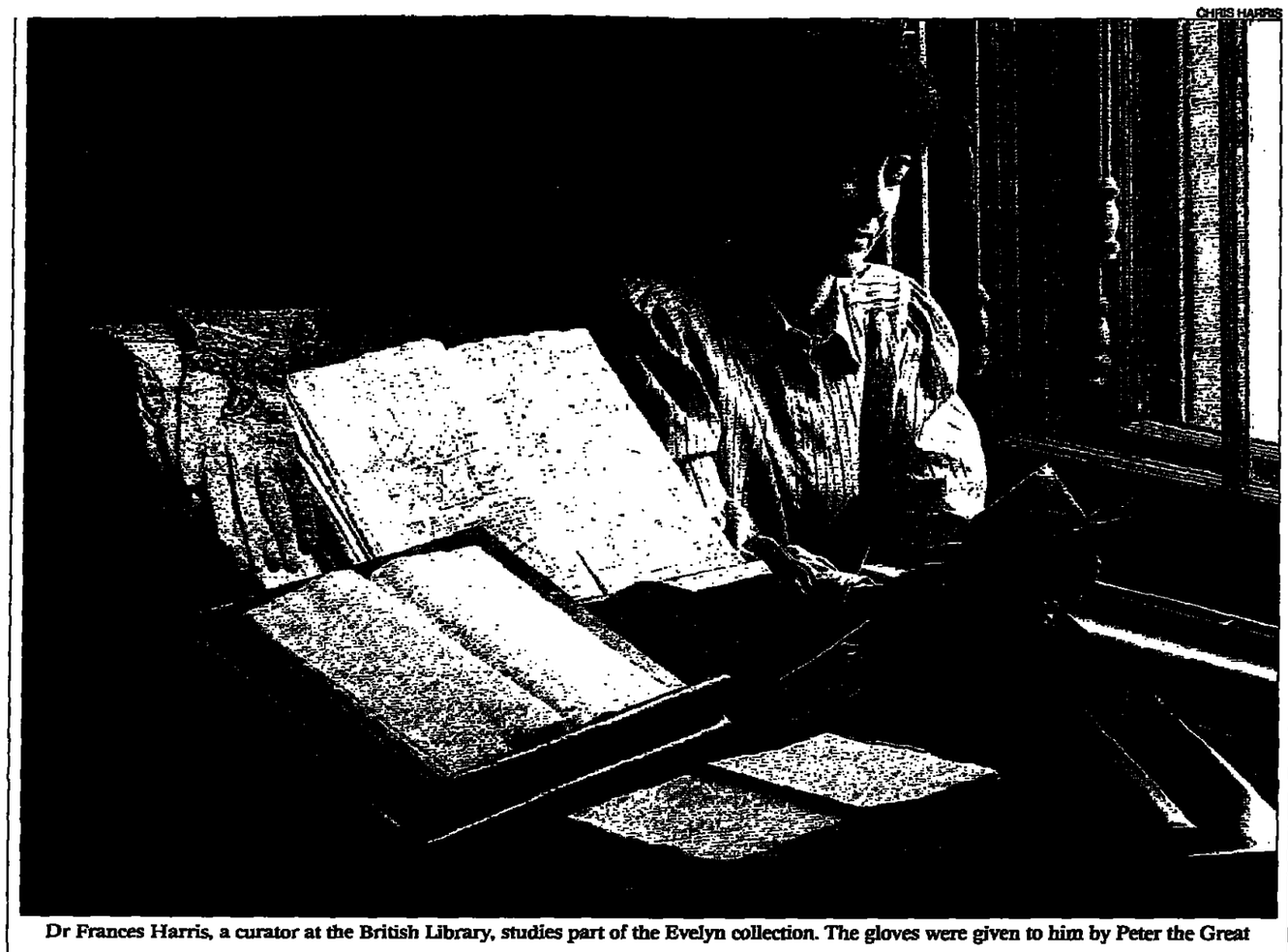
The only accounts the Child Aid Foundation has filed show that of £143,000 received up to March 1994, £84,000 had been spent on administration. Another £13,000 is attributed to "setting up costs", £33,000 is shown as being passed to reserves and only £12,000 is shown as having been spent on charitable purposes. £8,000 on the purchase of a bus and £4,000 on the foundation's Mediline, a medical directory which purports to put worried parents in contact with appropriate medical care.

A spokeswoman for the Charity Commission confirmed yesterday that "several representations" had been received about Child Aid and were being investigated.

A spokeswoman for the Duchess of York said in a statement: "Children in Crisis is aware that Major General Hollands is working with the Charity Commission in an informal inquiry into Child Aid. We cannot comment until the commission report is complete."



Hollands: took over in February 1994



CHRIS HARRIS

Dr Frances Harris, a curator at the British Library, studies part of the Evelyn collection. The gloves were given to him by Peter the Great

British Library buys record of 17th-century life and times

By John Young

THE British Library has acquired the archive of one of England's most prolific and versatile men of letters, the 17th-century diarist John Evelyn.

The collection, consisting of 605 numbered manuscripts and about a hundred further volumes, boxes and bundles of papers, was bought by private treaty from the trustees of the will of the late Major Peter Evelyn. The National Heritage Memorial Fund provided a grant of £1.45 million, but the total price has not been disclosed.

Dr Brian Lang, chief executive of the library, yesterday described the archive as of the greatest importance for scholars of 17th-century Britain. "I am immensely pleased that the British Library is to be its new home and that we can make it available to scholars through our reading rooms, and to the public through our exhibition galleries," he said.

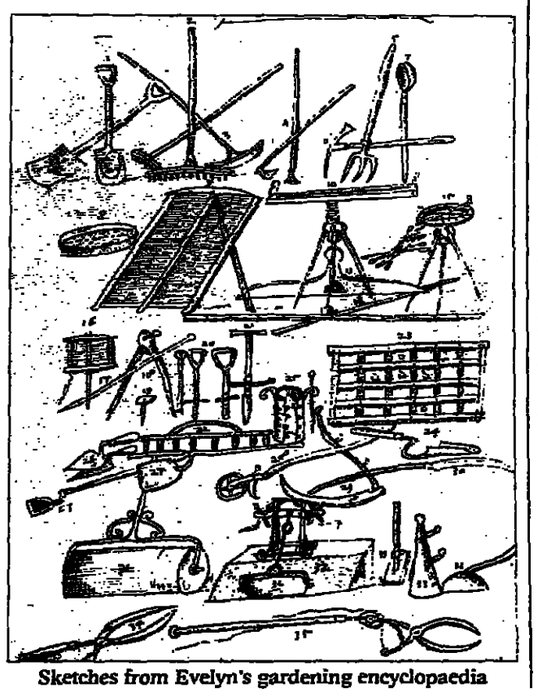
"Although we have been distracted by the problems over our new site in Euston Road, an acquisition like this shows that the British Library is alive and flourishing and getting on with what it should be doing."



Evelyn: prolific diarist

Evelyn, who was at the centre of the intellectual, social, political and ecclesiastical world of his age, began recording his life and times while still a boy and continued for some 75 years until his death in 1706. His diary has long been recognised as the most informative record of a momentous period in English history.

Until now the collection had been in the possession of his descendants at the family home at Wotton, Surrey. It includes the original manuscript of his diary, extensive correspondence with notable contemporaries such as Samuel Pepys, Grinling Gibbons and Sir Christopher Wren, and his unpublished gardening encyclopaedia *Elysium Britannicum*.



Sketches from Evelyn's gardening encyclopaedia

Injured boxer is improving

Gerald McClellan, the boxer who suffered brain injuries in his world title fight with Nigel Benn 12 days ago, has been taken off life support and sedation, the Royal London Hospital said yesterday. The surgeon who operated on the American super middleweight said he was slightly better and steadily improving.

Double death

Geoffrey Mace, 56, of Huddersfield, strangled his wife Paula, 41, after fearing she would leave, then gassed himself. Inquest verdicts: unlawful killing and suicide.

Libel victory

The socialite Lady Colin Campbell, 46, accepted undisclosed libel damages at the High Court over a *Daily Mirror* article that wrongly said she was a transsexual.

Poison charge

Margaret Baber, 51, a care worker accused of trying to poison an elderly diabetic woman at the patient's home in Bristol, was released on bail by the city's magistrates.

Blood pressure

Civil servants and parliamentary staff answered an appeal for blood after a patient at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, needed 108 pints, depleting already low stocks.

Birthday woe

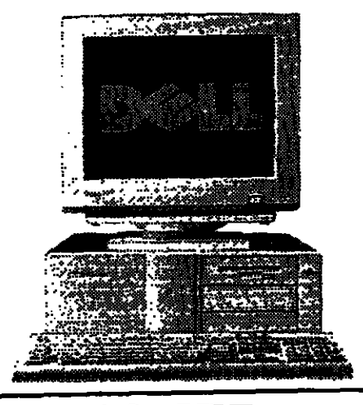
A man tricked his way into the home of Lily Carter, of Headingley, Leeds, days after she turned 100, and stole £90 she had put aside to pay for celebratory drinks.

Titanic memorial

A memorial garden for the 1,490 people lost in the sinking of the *Titanic* will be opened next month at the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich, southeast London.

Brains trust

Southend Community Health Trust has bought 8,000 brains kept for research at Runwell Hospital, Essex. John Bird, of the trust, said they were *The Three Graces* of neuroscience.



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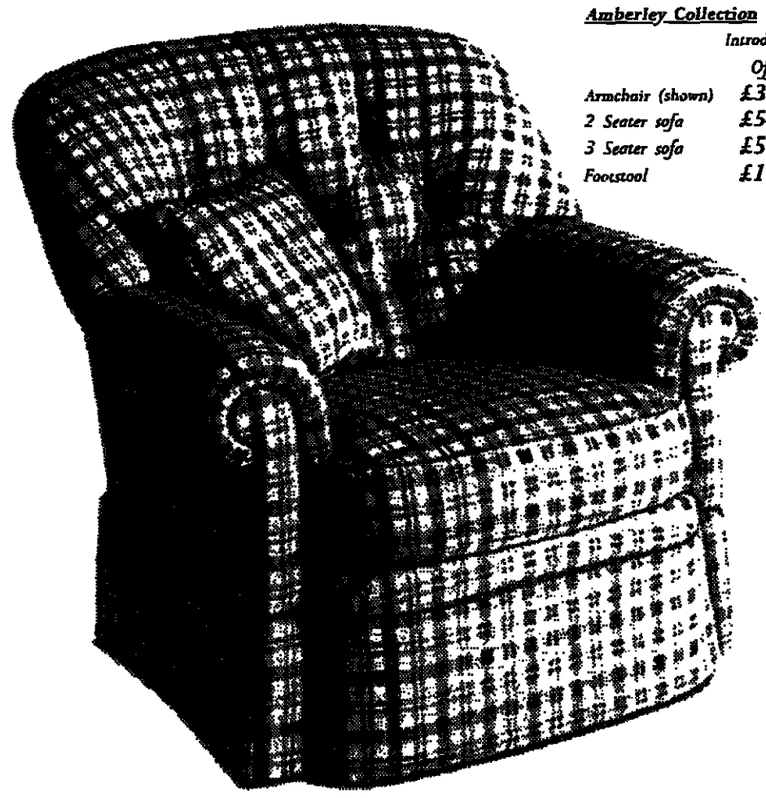
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Major has kept party afloat but real test is steering it to victory

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

The case for John Major usually goes by default, or is only grudgingly admitted. So there is a certain irony that the most coherent argument on his behalf has been presented by Sarah Hogg after she ceased being one of his closest advisers rather than during her more than four years as head of the Downing Street Policy Unit, when she was constrained by Civil Service rules.

Her view was given in a lecture at the Royal Geographical Society, as reported by Nigel Williamson on this page yesterday. The John Major she portrays practises the virtues of pragmatism and caution, responds to circumstances as well as initiates. He does not automatically accept Civil Service advice but listens and consults. He allows the whole of the Cabinet to have a say so that everyone is involved in decisions.

This portrait rings true. Mr Major is a skilful handler of his colleagues, relying more on the formal machinery of the Cabinet and its committees than the ad hoc groups increasingly favoured by Margaret Thatcher. There is little grumbling from his colleagues about his role as Cabinet chairman. One indicator is that despite all the tensions of the past few years no member of the Cabinet has resigned because of disagreements over policy. Indeed, it has been crucial to Mr Major's survival that he has prevented any of the sceptics — the bastards as he called them in July 1993 — from breaking off to head a potentially fatal revolt against him. In that respect, he has been more successful than, say, Arthur Balfour was in 1903-05 faced by similar internal problems.

Lady Hogg also depicts the Prime Minister as a reformer, particularly in the organisation of Government, based on his experiences 25 years ago as a Lambeth councillor dealing with housing cases. That has been the inspiration for the Citizen's Charter, which has had a bigger impact than is generally appreciated at Westminster in improving services at a local level and in setting measurable standards of performance. This has been linked to other initiatives in establishing executive agencies, market testing etc. Mr Major, as she fairly claimed, has also done more to open up the work of central government than any previous Prime Minister, ranging from publishing the procedural rules for ministers and the membership of Cabinet committees to bringing the intelligence services at least partly out of the shadows.

As Lady Hogg would acknowledge, Mr Major can also be credited with a determination to bring down inflation and return public finances to good shape, though as a Treasury minister he had his share of blame for the earlier errors, particularly in permitting rises in public spending. His record on Europe is patchier but given the divisions within his own party he has at least avoided any irrevocable negative commitments. And he has defied the doubts of many colleagues in launching and personally taking forward the attempt to break the stalemate in Northern Ireland. He has already achieved more than his predecessors in at least securing a ceasefire which has lasted six months.

That is a solid record by any measure. But Mr Major cannot be judged just on his own terms. The real test is whether he has given the Tories a new sense of direction after so many years in office. He obviously succeeded in his first 18 months, healing some of the wounds of the end of the Thatcher area and offering a sufficiently fresh face to help to win the 1992 election. But that changed after Black Wednesday and sterling's forced withdrawal from the European exchange-rate mechanism. That has done lasting damage to Mr Major's public credibility and to the coherence of the Government's strategy.

It has required all Mr Major's tactical skills to keep the party more or less together. But much more will be required to win the next election. It is not just a matter of survival or managing the Cabinet, but of having and articulating a broader strategic view. Mr Major has yet to show that he is more than a transitional leader.

PETER RIDDELL

We cannot ignore risk of terrorism, declares Howard

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

DEBATE

THE Government defended its decision to seek renewal of the Prevention of Terrorism Act for a further twelve months with Michael Howard telling the House last night: "We are not prepared to do anything which would expose the people of our country to unnecessary risk."

The Home Secretary also promised that he would never authorise damages payments as a result of the challenge to his exclusion orders policy by Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein president, in the European Court.

Mr Howard, opening the annual debate on the the Act, said: "It would, in our view, be wholly irresponsible to dismantle our defences while the paramilitary organisations remain intact, while they continue to carry out brutal punishment beatings, while their command structures, weapons and explosives remain in place and while they retain the capability to resume violence at very short notice."

Announcing the lifting of a further 16 exclusion orders that bar people in Northern Ireland from coming to Britain, Mr Howard said: "There are now just 40 orders in force, half the number of a year ago." He added that the police had convinced the Government that among those still excluded were some who would be likely to play some part in terrorism on the mainland, were that to resume.

Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, said he regretted that Labour could not support the Government in voting to renew the Act. His party wanted assurances that there would be a comprehensive review of anti-terrorist legislation.

Mr Howard said he was hopeful that those who previously supported violence could be brought fully within the political process. Tory backbenchers angrily interrupted to protest at reports that the Government could be forced to pay £20 million compensation to 500 excluded IRA sympathisers, including Mr Adams, under a case brought in the European Court.

Sir Anthony Grant (C, Cambridgeshire South West) said it would be "absolutely monstrous" if huge sums of taxpayers' money were extracted by members of the IRA "after all the misery and suffering they have caused".

Mr Howard sympathised but said reports that the European Commission had made representations in support of Mr Adams's claim were inaccurate.

Terry Dicks (C, Hayes and Harlington) angrily demanded "that irrespective of what any European Court says about Adams this Government will take no notice of that and flatly refuse to pay him and his ilk any money at all".

To cheers from both sides, Mr Howard said: "I shall never authorise any payment of damages as a result of this case."

Mr Straw acknowledged the violence of the past 25 years. "We can neither forgive nor forget these terrible, brutal atrocities which have scarred our society. There is no question on this side of dismantling the security apparatus." But he said that in the light of the ceasefire, the case for the establishment of a fundamental review was unanswerable and overwhelming.

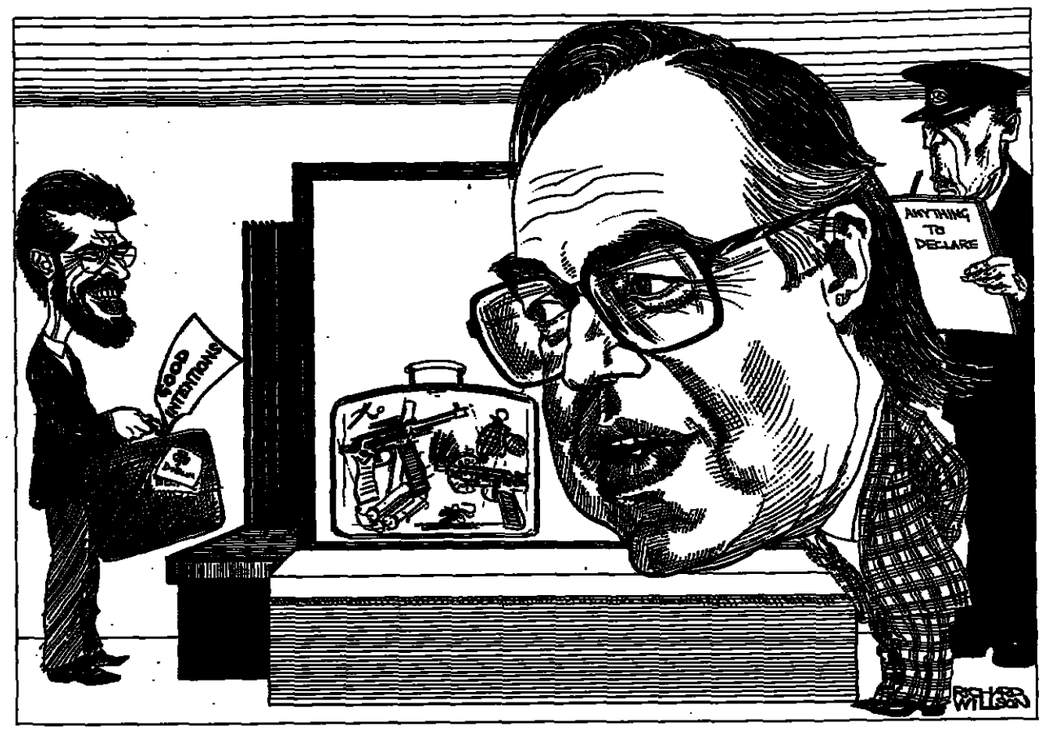
"That would not undermine the fight against terorism, but strengthen it, by ensuring that the powers that are needed for this fight are proportionate to the threat and enjoy the consent and understanding of the public."

Roger Stott (Lab, Wigan) said that 21 years ago, after the Birmingham pub bombings, he had voted for the Act's renewal. "But as time went by, I and my party began to realise that the draconian powers contained in this Act were becoming unsustainable. The erosion of civil liberties, of human rights could no longer in our judgment be sustained."

The Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionists, said the people of Northern Ireland saw the "so-called ceasefire and peace process" as an advantage to the terrorists. "The IRA can at this time dictate when this peace can be broken and in the interim the Government are dancing to a tune of concessions in order to keep the Provisional IRA sweet. The fact is that the IRA has no intention whatsoever of decommissioning or surrendering arms. They remain today one of the advanced terrorist organisations in the western world with the greatest possible killing potential."

Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, rejected suggestions that there had been a weakening in the Government's position on terrorist arms. Asked about reports that talks between ministers and Sinn Fein leaders could begin without the IRA having handed over a single gun, Sir Patrick said: There is no case for anybody retaining arms which are illegally held. That is abundantly clear. There is no change whatsoever in the Government's position. In a democracy parties will not sit down, must not sit down with another party that implies that if it doesn't get its way, it is prepared to condone a return to violence."

Leading article, page 19



Blair in appeal to Labour's Clause 4 doubters

BY JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TEN to fifteen constituencies are expected to seal Tony Blair's fate at the Scottish Labour Party conference tomorrow in what is likely to be a knife-edge vote on the rewriting of Clause Four.

Tonight the trade unions, which hold 70 per cent of the vote, will meet to decide whether they will back the Labour leader in his attempt to scrap the party's commitment to nationalisation. They are said to be evenly split.

Campaigners against change, who are confident of defeating Mr Blair, will make a final effort to gather support for their cause at a rally in Inverness tonight led by the left-wing MP Tony Benn.

Party sources claim that the constituencies, with 30 per cent of the vote, are also evenly split, with ten to fifteen undecided. Those that have still to decide include Robin Cook's Livingston constituency, Linlithgow (Tam Dalyell) and Strathkelvin and Bearsden (Sam Galbraith.)

Mr Blair will do his best to influence them with a last-ditch appeal tomorrow afternoon, an hour before delegates vote. He will emphasise the need to make the party electable by modernising the party's constitution.

Yesterday most MPs at a meeting of the parliamentary Labour party backed Mr Blair's proposed rewriting of Clause Four. Only two MPs are said to have opposed him, although two Scottish MPs, Michael Connarty (Falkirk East) and Malcolm Chisholm (Edinburgh Leith), expressed their reservations.

Mr Blair hinted at the final wording of the new Clause Four by insisting that there should be some publicly owned services as well as "a strong and competitive private sector". He told the meeting that both parts must make up "a properly regulated dynamic market economy". Anyone could vote for Clause Four as it stood but it would not represent the policies of the next Labour government.

The Transport and General Workers' Union will oppose Mr Blair tomorrow while the public service union Unison will back him. The GMB union, which is expected to support Mr Blair at a special conference on April 29, will abstain tomorrow, which could be enough to defeat him.

MPs' sleaze inquiry faces long delay

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND NICHOLAS WOOD

ONE of the Commons inquiries into cash-for-questions allegations against Tory MPs faces an indefinite delay because of a blocking action by a Labour MP.

Yesterday the Commons Members' Interests Committee reported Dale Campbell-Savours to Tony Newton, the Leader of the Commons, for repeated breaches of Commons rules by interrupting private meetings of the committee.

The committee, investigating allegations against the former Corporate Affairs Minister Neil Hamilton, is now seeking a Commons ruling to bar Mr Campbell-Savours, the MP for Workington, from its meetings. A Commons debate on his conduct is the next step and the committee will not try to meet again before Mr Newton has decided whether to put the issue to a Commons vote. But with the Government reluctant to give Labour MPs the chance to make further allegations about Tory "sleaze", Mr Newton will not hurry to invite MPs to pass judgment on Mr Campbell-Savours. Committee members concede that the arguments may lead to a long delay.

It is the second time within a month that the MP has disrupted the committee's work. Although he is entitled to attend private meetings of the committee, he has breached Commons rules by interrupting proceedings. Among his complaints is the unusual Tory decision to place Andrew Mitchell, a government whip, on the committee, which Labour says puts undue pressure on Tory committee members.

Before the latest delay, the committee was close to reaching a decision on whether disciplinary action should be taken against Mr Hamilton, who failed to declare a stay at the Ritz Hotel in Paris as a guest of Mohamed Al Fayed, the owner of Harrods.

The other inquiry, by the Commons Privileges Committee, is to resume its discussions next Monday on what action to take against three Tory MPs — David Tredinnick, Graham Riddick and Bill Walker — who are accused of being willing to accept £1,000 for tabling Commons questions.

I was careless, admits Butler



Butler: faced hostile questioning from MPs

THE Cabinet Secretary, Sir Robin Butler, admitted last night that he had been careless in reporting a key part of his inquiry into alleged ministerial misconduct (Arthur Leathley writes).

Sir Robin also conceded that he had not been able to conduct a full investigation into allegations that Jonathan Aitken, the Treasury Chief Secretary, had lied about a stay at the Ritz Hotel in Paris.

The Cabinet Secretary faced hostile questioning by Tory and Labour MPs over his role in the inquiry, set up by John Major, into whether Mr Aitken had had his hotel bill paid for by a Saudi businessman. He was accused of jeopardising his role as impartial head of the Civil Service by carrying out an investigation with specific political motives.

During an intense hearing of the Commons Treasury and Civil Service committee, Sir Robin admitted that his formal report, submitted to the Prime Minister, was wrong to refer to the Aitkens having paid their bill when Mrs Aitken had stayed at a separate hotel. "That was careless," he told MPs. He had been "landed" in the situation of having to prepare a report so that "the Prime Minister should not be seen to be sitting on his hands".

Quentin Davies, a Tory committee member, pressed Sir Robin to explain why he had not interviewed anyone other than Mr Aitken and two other ministers accused of impropriety. "I did what I believe was necessary within my powers," Sir Robin said.

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY: The Commons sat at 10am for backbench debates starting with The Prince's Youth Business Trust, opened by David Shaw (C, Dover) and continuing to Women employees' wage levels, opened by Anne Campbell (Lab, Cambridge). Questions to trade and industry ministers were followed by the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act (Continuance) Order and the Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order.

The Lords debated the 1996 European inter-governmental conference and the Legitimated Persons (Succession to Titles) Bill.

TODAY: In the Commons, questions to Home Office ministers and the Prime Minister will be followed by debates on the South Africa Bill, all stages, and on the developing parliamentary broadcasting archives.

The Lords will debate the Environment Bill and the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act (Enforcement of External Orders) Order.

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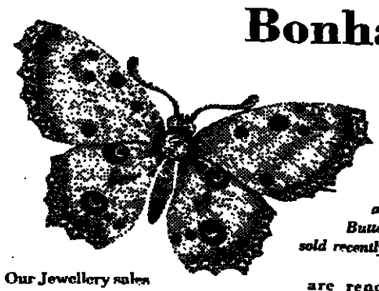
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Asylum ruling on Saudi dissident risks Riyadh fury

By Michael Binyon, Diplomatic Editor

MUHAMMAD al-Massari, a leading Saudi Islamist dissident, has won an appeal against a Home Office decision refusing him political asylum in Britain.

The independent judgment by the Immigration Appeals Tribunal is a spectacular and embarrassing rebuff to the Government, which has come under heavy pressure from Saudi Arabia to deport Dr al-Massari. Huge contracts depend on Saudi goodwill, and King Fahd has personally lobbied John Major and Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, to deny Dr al-Massari asylum. The Saudis are likely to react furiously to the tribunal's decision.

Dr al-Massari, who has attacked the Saudi royal family as corrupt and called on his followers to demonstrate against what he calls government oppression, heads a London-based Committee for the Defence of Legitimate Rights, which sends regular faxes to Islamic dissidents in Saudi Arabia. He came to London last year from Yemen, after escaping from Saudi Arabia, where several members of his family have subsequently been imprisoned.

The Home Office argued that the basis of his asylum appeal was invalid, since he came from a third country, Yemen, which could offer him safe haven. The appeal tribunal, however, agreed with him that Yemen, where Saudi Arabia has a strong influence, was not a safe place, and that his life would be endangered if he were returned. The Home Office has a week to appeal against the ruling. If it stands, Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, will be obliged to consider the substance of Dr al-Massari's asylum application.

The hearing was heard in person by the deputy chief adjudicator, indicating the enormous political sensitivity of the high-profile case. The Government has been embarrassed by the case, and is alarmed that London is increasingly seen as a haven for Muslim fundamentalists. David Gore-Booth, the British Ambassador in Saudi Arabia, has strongly supported moves to deny Dr al-Massari asylum in Britain.

Dr al-Massari said through his solicitors yesterday that he had always had full faith in Britain's judiciary. However, his fight to remain is far from over. The Home Office can appeal to the next level of the tribunal, involving a full panel of three adjudicators, and if it loses again it can seek leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal. The procedure can go to the House of Lords before Mr Howard is obliged to look at the substance of the claim that Dr al-Massari's life or freedom are in danger in Saudi Arabia. The entire appeals procedure can then start again.

Technically, the Foreign Office has no influence on the proceedings, although Mr Howard would have been expected to seek the advice of Mr Hurd and MI5 before making his initial decision.

Plans for Jerusalem festivities criticised

From Christopher Walker in Jerusalem

AN ELABORATE and controversial 34 million shekel (£7.3 million) scheme to celebrate the 3,000th anniversary of "the establishment of Jerusalem as the capital of the kingdom of Israel by King David" was unveiled yesterday amid great criticism.

The 15-month round of festivities due to start in September and run through the whole of 1996 is being organised jointly by the right-wing dominated Jerusalem municipality and the centre-left Government of Yitzhak Rabin, which, in May 1996, is due to begin negotiations with the Palestinians on the final status of the Holy City.

Among the names who have agreed to participate are Franco Zeffirelli, the film director, who will mount a *son et lumière*; Daniel Barenboim, who will conduct *Fidelio* under the Old City walls; and Zubin Mehta who will lead the Israel Philharmonic in a gala concert dedicated to King David. Barbra Streisand and Whitney Houston have also been asked to perform.

The plans have been attacked by ultra-Orthodox politicians who dismiss them as being performed largely by non-Jews, of giving a Hollywood-style image and of even commemorating the wrong date. Avaraham Verger, of the United Tora Judaism party, claimed that the anniversary was being staged 136 years too early.

The celebration has also been attacked for ignoring the Palestinians. Ehud Olmert, the right-wing Mayor of Jerusalem, claimed that efforts had been been made to allow for both Muslim and Christian sensibilities.



An Iraqi child receives a polio vaccine from the United Nations Children's Fund in Baghdad at the start of a campaign to inoculate 3.5 million children

UN condemns Iraq 'terror'

Geneva: The United Nations Human Rights Commission condemned Iraq yesterday for "massive and extremely grave" violations of human rights and pinned the blame on the Government of President Saddam Hussein.

In a resolution adopted by 31 votes to one with 21 abstentions, the UN's highest human rights forum decried "an all-pervasive order of repression and oppression" that is sustained by "widespread terror".

Accusations against the Iraqi government included:

☐ Summary and arbitary executions and mass executions.

☐ Widespread and routine torture in its most cruel forms.

☐ Anti-crime decrees prescribing mutilation for offences such as petty theft or desertion, and the abuse of medical services to carry out such mutilations.

The commission also condemned Iran for continuing rights violations including torture and excessive use of the death penalty. (*Reuter*)

Chinese scrape by in vote on rights

By Jonathan Mirsky

CHINA survived by one vote an unprecedented United Nations resolution yesterday condemning its human rights record.

The resolution was defeated by 21 to 20 with 12 abstentions; it was the first time in five years that Peking had been unable to block such a resolution coming to a vote.

The resolution "expressed concern at continuing reports of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in China".

The deciding vote at the Geneva meeting of the Human Rights Commission came from the Russians, who joined with some Third World nations which had undergone intense Chinese lobbying.

The Russians had voted on Tuesday night against the Chinese move to block the resolution, making the vote 22-22 and for the first time bringing a possible condemnation of Peking to the fore.

Tuesday night's vote was an embarrassment for Peking and the one yesterday will also be felt as a humiliation. "This is the first time the US has really applied some muscle," Robby Barnett, of the London-based Tibet Information Network, said. "Before, the Americans had always appeared to support a human rights move against Peking but they never really followed through."

The Tuesday night vote against Peking included countries outside the Western block such as Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic and Guinea-Bissau.

Until this year's vote the Chinese had always claimed they were victims of Western attempts to intrude into their national sovereignty, although at this year's meeting Peking had condemned the United States for racism.

"Permanent members of the Security Council are no longer immune from criticism," Gyaltsen Gyaltag, the Tibetan representative at the Geneva meeting, said.

Sir Henry Steele, Britain's Ambassador, noted on Tuesday night that neither the United States nor the Russians had tried to block resolutions condemning their human rights records.

Arabs flock for billy goat elixir

OPTIMISTIC Palestinians are flocking to the occupied West Bank village of Sinirya to buy milk produced by a hermaphrodite goat, named Abu Mosaid (the Father of Hope), which they are convinced will cure impotence and sterility (Christopher Walker writes).

The goat, with male genialia, recently developed an udder, producing the milk that is now in demand. Local lore perpetuates myths that such freaks of nature grant supernatural powers. The beast's fame greatly increased when it was featured in a report on CNN, the American-based television network.

The demand for the goat's milk has proved lucrative for its Arab owner, Mufeed Sheikh, 38. He says he earns about £90 a day — more than what most Palestinians earn in a week — selling cupfuls of the milk. "I do not need to work in Israel any more," he told reporters.

Ahmed Harashe, 33, was one customer expecting to gain from his purchase of a cupful last week, after a wait of ten days. He is hoping the milk will cure him of sterility after 15 years of a childless marriage. "I feel stronger during sex," he reported yesterday. "But it is too early to tell yet if my wife is pregnant."

Korean leader presses Major for backing to win Security Council seat

By Michael Binyon

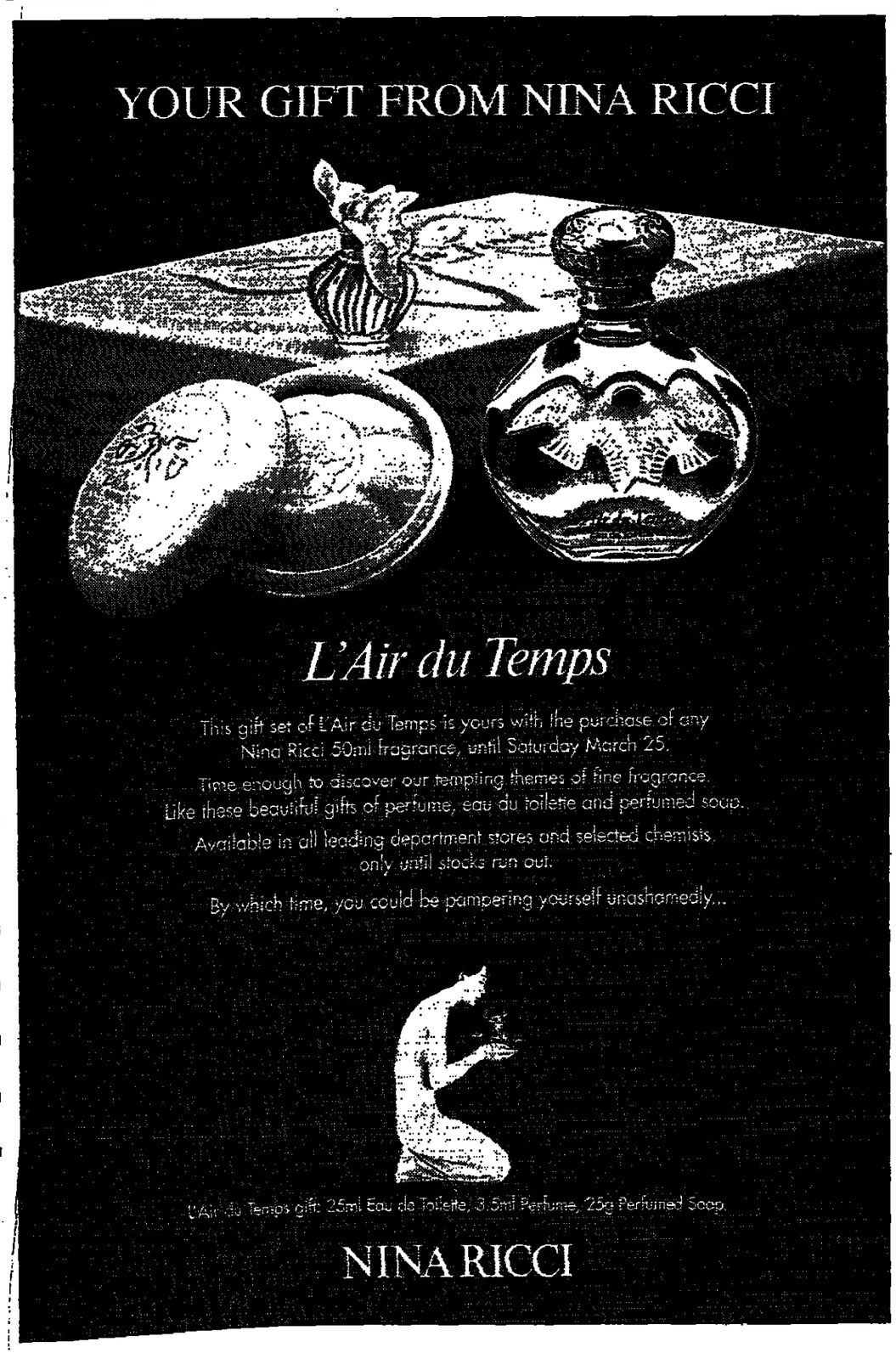
SOUTH KOREA'S President, Kim Young Sam, arrived in London yesterday at the start of a high-profile visit that is expected to boost booming trade and confirm Britain as a leading recipient of Korean industrial investment.

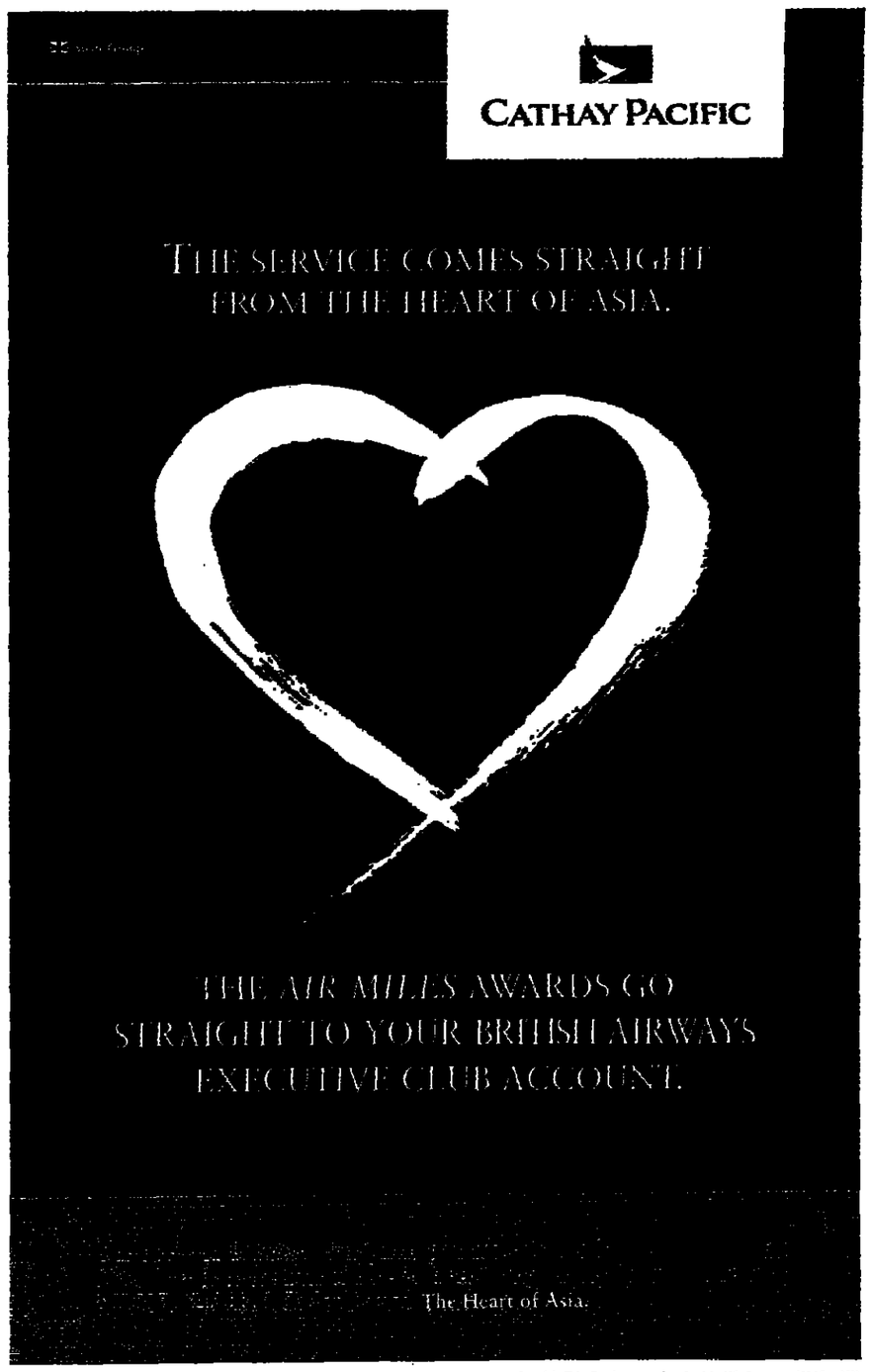
At a Downing Street meeting he sought John Major's support for Korea's campaign to win a two-year term on the United Nations Security Council, saying this would give Seoul a chance to show its gratitude for the military help it received from the United Nations during the 1950-53 Korean War.

Mr Major said that Britain would give "careful consideration" to President Kim's request. To back up his campaign to win the nomination against Sri Lanka, the other contender, the Korean leader said that he was fully prepared to deploy troops for UN peacekeeping operations. President Kim arrived yesterday from Bonn, where he also sought the backing of the German Government, and will continue his lobbying in Copenhagen, where he is going this weekend to attend the UN summit on social development.

Mr Major and President Kim also discussed the negotiations to remove the nuclear threat by North Korea, which is to receive new nuclear reactors from a consortium of America, Japan and South Korea in return for a dismantling of its energy programme, seen as a way of producing nuclear bombs. Mr Major promised to "urge Pyongyang to comply fully with the the agreement", according to the President's spokesman.

The Government is making much of this visit as Britain has won 30 per cent of South Korea's investment and bilateral trade is now worth £2 billion. However, the Koreans are chagrined that this is not a state visit, and to compensate Britain is making much of the ceremonial aspects. Today the Lord Mayor of London will give a luncheon at which guests will wear morning dress. Yesterday Mrs Kim was received by the Queen at Buckingham Palace.





Balladur suffers new setback over share deals

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

A FRESH controversy was threatening Edouard Balladur's attempt to become French President last night after it emerged that he had earned 2.5 million francs (about £312,000) from share dealings just before his appointment as Prime Minister in 1993.

Although M Balladur's office insisted that he had done nothing illegal, the disclosures will be used by opponents to tarnish further his carefully-constructed image of integrity.

The revelations in yesterday's edition of the satirical weekly, *Le Canard Enchaîné*, could hardly have been less opportune. A front-runner in the presidential race, M Balladur, 65, had been knocked off his stride by a recent telephone-tapping scandal and a spat with the United States over CIA espionage.

The report in *Le Canard Enchaîné* threw him back on to the defensive just as he was trying to breathe new life into his campaign. The Prime Minister said he was "indignant" at what he called "a manifest attempt to harm me".The magazine said that in the three years before he became Prime Minister, M Balladur earned 7 million francs, including more than 5 million as the result of his links to a computer firm named GSI.

Just over half the money was a salary, paid in return for advice on important dossiers, while the remainder came from the sale of shares in the company, of which he was President from 1977 until he entered politics as Economy Minister in 1986.

With M Balladur already facing accusations that his bourgeois background makes him incapable of understanding ordinary Frenchmen, the disclosure of his hefty income is highly embarrassing. Worse, however, are the doubts about its true origins.

Yesterday, for instance, *Le Monde* openly questioned the Prime Minister's assertions that he had worked for GSI between 1988 and 1993, hinting that his "advice" was fictitious and the "salary" little more than a present.

Further, *Le Canard Enchaîné* alleged that the shares sold by M Balladur at a profit of 2.5 million francs in 1993 had not been bought on the open market over the previous five years as he says. Rather, the newspaper suggested, when he became Economy Minister he handed part of his stock to a friend, enabling him to claim — falsely — that he had divested himself of all interest in GSI.

When his Gaullist party lost office two years later, the shares were put under M Balladur's name again, the article said. The newspaper also said that some of the money stemmed from a share-option exercised in 1993 at about the same time as his Government introduced a reform making it possible to earn quick profits from such dealings. If the newspaper's allegations are correct, there was a clear conflict of interest.

In a statement, M Balladur's office confirmed that he had made 2.5 million francs from the sale of GSI shares, but denied the rest of *Le Canard Enchaîné*'s accusations. His "concern has always been to separate public and private activity," the statement said.

However, rivals seized upon the issue to attack the increasingly embattled Prime Minister. Thierry Jean-Pierre, a supporter of the right-wing Eurosceptic candidate, Philippe de Villiers, said M Balladur had "mixed national interest and individual interest. There is no criminal Balladur-GSI affair but there is an affair of public morality". Amid his mounting difficulties, there has been just one piece of good news for M Balladur this week — the announcement by Valéry Giscard d'Estaing that he would not stand for a second spell as President. The man who led France in the 1970s said that his views were not echoed by public opinion, making it impossible for him to run.

Charles Bremner, page 18



Edouard Balladur, right, and Roland Dumas who was sworn in as Constitutional Council President yesterday

MPs vote to replace Greek president

FROM MALCOLM BRABANT IN ATHENS

GREECE and its ailing Prime Minister, Andreas Papandreou, have been spared an unwanted general election, after MPs agreed to make Costas Stephanopoulos the country's new President.

He replaces Constantine Karamanlis, the grand old man of Greek politics.

The decision, by the narrowest of margins ensures that Mr Papandreou and his Socialist party (Pasok) can remain in office until 1997.

Last night's vote was the third and final chance for Mr Papandreou to secure his choice for president. Failure to get 180 out of 300 possible votes would have automatically triggered a general election within 40 days.

Pasok has 170 MPs but victory was made possible by the support of the 11 members of Political Spring, the centre-right nationalist party, headed by Antonis Samaras, the former Foreign Minister.

Mr Samaras, once tipped as a possible Conservative party leader may claim that he was acting in Greece's best interests, because the uncertainty and cost of an election could unsettle the frail economy.

But diehard conservatives consider his backing of the Socialists to be the ultimate act of treachery and he has probably scuppered any lingering ambitions of becoming Prime Minister.

Last night's session brought to a close the long and distinguished career of Mr Karamanlis, who was 88 yesterday. His term of office expires in May, but he appealed for the issue to be settled early in the interests of national stability.

Mr Karamanlis spent 14 years as Prime Minister and ten as President. His charisma and leadership qualities made him the only possible choice to bind Greece together after the collapse of the Colonels' military dictatorship in 1974. He ensured that democracy was not only restored but flourished.

Mr Stephanopoulos, 69, is a lawyer by profession and is a popular choice for President. Greeks like his integrity.

EUROPEAN SUMMARY

Russian linked to US gangs

Fano, Italy: A man reputed to be a leader of the Russian Mafia operating in New York city was arrested yesterday, Italian police said.

Monya Elson, 44, was captured at a hotel in the town of Fano on the Adriatic coast. Police said he was arrested on a warrant issued by authorities in New York, where he faces charges of murder, attempted murder, extortion and drug trafficking. They said Mr Elson, Russian-born but now a United States citizen, was alleged to be the leader of a gang of the Russian Mafia in the Brooklyn section of New York City. *(Reuter)*

Polish police to continue protest

Warsaw: The Polish police force decided to continue with its month-long protest despite urgent steps by Jozef Oleksy's new leftist Government to crack down on rampant crime. The force has been promised more officers to fight crime and additional funds, two of their demands in the face of growing organised crime. Last year, 1,160 murders were committed in Poland, which has a population of 39 million. *(AP)*

Opposition waits to lead Estonia

Tallinn: Tiit Vaehi, Estonia's centrist opposition leader, awaited presidential approval to form the next government after winning the biggest share of parliamentary seats in the country's second general election. "The ball is now in President Meri's court," said a spokesman for Mr Vaehi's centrist Coalition Party. The final vote count was expected later yesterday. *(Reuter)*

William Rees-Mogg, page 18

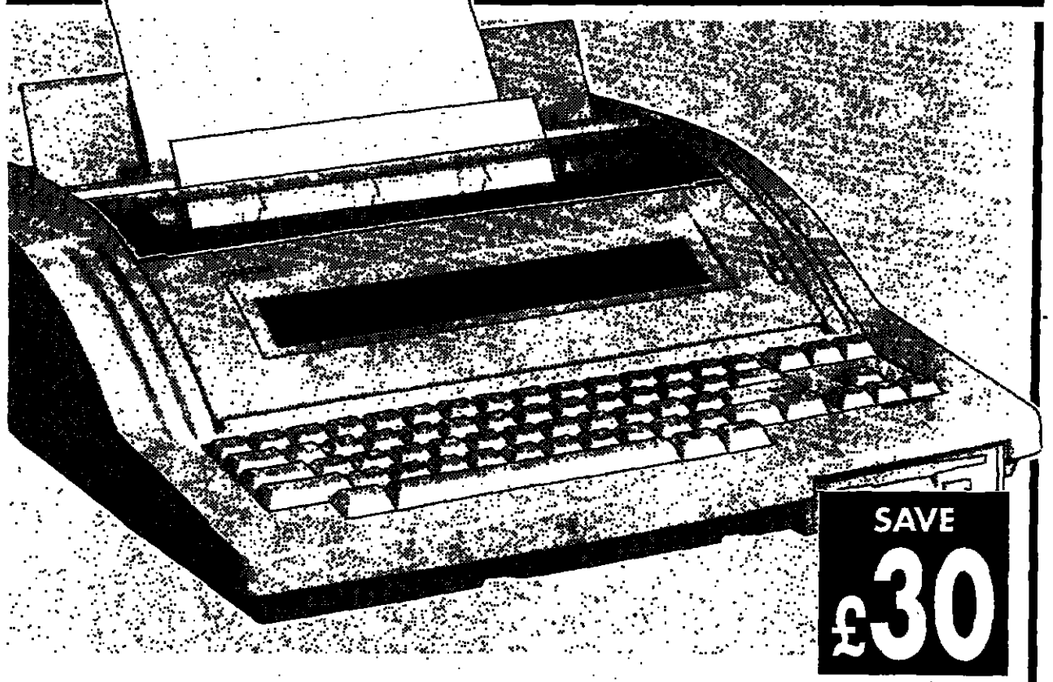
Explorer dies

Papeete, Tahiti: Paul-Emile Victor, the French explorer who documented the Earth's polar wilderness, died on the South Pacific island, Bora Bora, at 87. *(Reuter)*

Obituary, page 21

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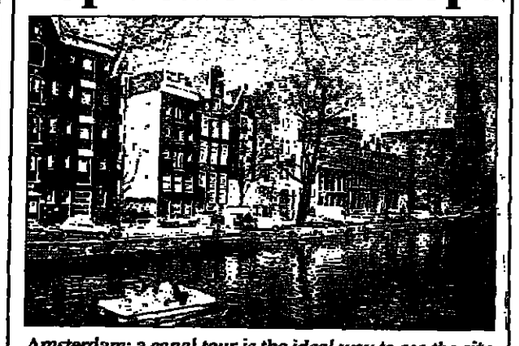
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THE TIMES
20p deals for Europe



Amsterdam: a canal tour is the ideal way to see the city

APRIL is an ideal time of the year to visit Amsterdam, and this week's offers from *The Times* will enable you to drive there cheaply with Le Shuttle, give you £20 of duty-free goods for 20p – and offer a special language deal with Linguaphone.

Linguaphone is the world's leading language tuition company. Collect the tokens which are appearing each day until Monday and you could buy up to three Traveller's Guides for just 20p each.

Traveller's Guides are available in French, German, Spanish, Italian, Greek and Portuguese; they contain a 70-minute bilingual cassette and a printed guide to useful words and phrases. Buy one for £2.79, collect two tokens and you will be entitled to buy a second guide for just 20p.

With your guides you will receive a voucher worth £50 if you buy a full Linguaphone course. Full details of this offer, plus an application form, appeared on Tuesday.

The normal price for a five-day short break return crossing through the Channel tunnel on Le Shuttle in April is up to £150 – but we have pegged it at the winter rate of £75 until the end of the month for a car, driver and passengers. Collect four of the six tokens which are appearing each day until Monday and complete the form which appeared on Tuesday and you will also qualify for the special duty-free offer. Travel must be completed by April 30 1995 and excludes April 14, 15 and 16. You must book at least ten days before you intend to travel. Full terms and conditions appeared on Tuesday.

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General in Belgian bribe case found dead

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

A RETIRED Belgian Air Force general recently questioned over a widening political scandal about murder, bribery and armaments contracts was found dead in an hotel yesterday after apparently taking his own life. Hotel staff said that two suicide notes were found.

The general's death is likely to dislodge a fresh cascade of information, renew claim and counterclaim over Belgium's bribes-for-helicopters scandal that has caused the resignation of three ministers, havoc in two Socialist parties and a sharp fall in the reputation of the country's political class.

The daily stream of new allegations is bound to increase pressure on the Belgian secretary-general of Nato, Willy Claes, to resign when he returns from an official trip to Washington later this week.

Mr Claes and several of his colleagues in the Flemish Socialist Party have admitted hearing that their party was offered a bribe. They have said that they neither accepted the money nor reported the approach to the authorities.

A White House spokesman said that there had been no discussion of Mr Claes's position at Nato when he met President Clinton on Tuesday.

The body of General Jacques Lefebvre, 64, was found yesterday in a hotel room he had booked for a single night.

"It appears as if it was suicide," a spokesman for the public prosecutor's office said. Six small bottles of whisky were found next to the body but, according to Belgian radio, there was no sign of violence, drugs or firearms.

General Lefebvre was head of the Belgian Air Force in 1988 when several international manufacturers were competing to sell attack and reconnaissance helicopters to Belgium. General Lefebvre's home was searched and he was interviewed by investigators a fortnight ago, and was likely to face further questioning.

A director of one of the companies used to pay bribes told the inquiry this week that he had been in contact with the general over the helicopter contract. The allegations were widely reported in the Belgian media on the evening that General Lefebvre checked into the hotel close to his home.

A three-and-a-half year inquiry prompted by the murder of a prominent politician in Liège has led to a brace of corruption charges and the detention of a number of high-ranking Belgian officials including the man who headed Mr Claes's office at the Economics Ministry in 1988. Trials of two French-speaking Socialist ministers who resigned their jobs when they came under suspicion will start later this year.

A nervous and battered political establishment awaits a general election in two months' time with trepidation. Polls suggest that the far Right will gain from the stories of hidden political networks, Swiss bank accounts and murder conspiracies. The Agusta helicopters affair is rarely off the airwaves or the front pages of Belgian newspapers.

Before General Lefebvre's body was found yesterday, investigators had been looking into claims that a prominent Belgian politician took part in a meeting to organise the murder of a fellow member of the party.



Pro-communists marching through Moscow on Women's Day

Russians praise their unliberated women

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

THE plight of Russia's long-suffering women was set aside for a few hours yesterday as mothers, wives and girlfriends were showered with flowers and chocolates in a Soviet-era ritual.

International Women's Day, supposed to celebrate the emancipation of women under socialism, has thrived as a national holiday in Russia, where everyone from President Yeltsin to orbiting cosmonauts took time out yesterday to praise the fairer sex.

"All of us must remember how much effort it cost our mothers to put us on our feet," said the Russian leader in his annual message. "Do not forget to visit them today and thank them for their selfless love."

In spite of the kind words, however, Russia's women have little to celebrate this year as further evidence emerges that they have been taking the brunt of the country's economic turmoil and are suffering most from an exploding crime wave. "Women's Day is nothing more than an excuse for men to absolve themselves of their dismal behaviour the rest of the year," wrote Betsy McKay, a columnist, in *Moscow Times*. "They make the ritual motions of presenting flowers and candy, then grab a bottle of vodka and sit back while the women slave in the kitchen over the expected holiday dinner."

A report by Human Rights Watch, released today, says that Russia's women are unfairly discriminated against in the workplace. The report says that two-thirds of the growing population of unemployed are women, with the figure rising to more than 85 per cent in some regions. A large part of the problem is blamed on the Government, which encourages employers to cut female staff instead of men. Valeri Yanvariov, the Deputy Minister of Social Affairs, said: "Women often have ill children. They worry about their households and other traditional women's issues. Employers may think it better to hire slightly less-qualified men."

☐ Chechenia march: A group of Russian soldiers' mothers, Buddhist monks and anti-war activists set off yesterday for Grozny to protest against the continuing war in Chechenia. The group, numbering about 200, left the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in front of the Kremlin to travel by car to the southern Russian city of Mineralniye Vody, stopping to pick up more demonstrators and hold rallies along the way. They will then walk the remaining 200 miles to Grozny. *(AP)*

Shooting disturbs UN summit

FROM CHRISTOPHER FOLLETT IN COPENHAGEN

MYSTERY divers allegedly opened fire on a Danish policeman patrolling the coast near Copenhagen International Airport at dawn yesterday. The incident led to a land and sea search casting a shadow over the third day of the United Nations Summit for Social Development here.

Danish police said that one of their officers opened fire in the dark on what he thought was a group of divers near the airport's hydrofoil terminal. The officer believed he heard them shoot in his direction as they waded ashore near the heavily guarded site of the UN meeting, attended yesterday by Hillary Clinton, America's First Lady.

Annemette Moller, Copenhagen's Deputy Police Commissioner, played down the possibility of a terrorist attack.

The summit marked International Women's Day yesterday with calls from dozens of countries for greater equality, issued against a background of official statistics that show women are the biggest victims of poverty. Of the world's 1.2 billion poor, up to 70 per cent are women. Mrs Clinton addressed the summit for a second time, unveiling a $100 million American plan to help to educate poverty-stricken children.

Bangladesh outraged by Zhirinovsky call

Dhaka: Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the Russian ultra-nationalist, came under fire yesterday in Bangladesh after implicitly calling on India to annex the South Asian state.

The Dhaka Government and political groups condemned the controversial Russian politician's statement. Mustafizur Rahman, the Bangladeshi Foreign Minister, said he was "surprised and shocked" by Mr Zhirinovsky's remarks. "Bangladesh has emerged and will stay as an independent country," Mr Rahman said.

Mr Zhirinovsky, on a visit to India, called on Monday for Delhi to effectively annex Pakistan and Bangladesh, saying "I am opposed to any artificial division of the country." Both countries were once part of India under British rule.

Eduard Shevchenko, the Russian Ambassador here, expressed his "deep regret" over the matter, the Bangladesh Foreign Ministry said. *(AFP)*

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Two Americans die in Karachi ambush of diplomatic bus

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN KARACHI

KARACHI'S law and order crisis, which threatens to bring Pakistan's financial capital to its knees, entered a more menacing stage yesterday with the murder of two American consulate workers during the morning rush-hour. It is the first time that foreigners have been targeted.

Benazir Bhutto, the Prime Minister, said the attack was "part of a well-planned campaign of terrorism". The White House deplored the shooting as a "vicious crime".

Mike McCurry, the White House Press secretary, said that President Clinton would issue a statement "expressing our sadness and outrage at the attack on US diplomatic representatives abroad". He said Washington was "determined to bring to justice those responsible."

The shooting happened on the city's busiest street. Police, who no longer routinely patrol Karachi because it is too dangerous, were nowhere at hand. The United States Consulate bus, which was taking several diplomats to work, was attacked by an unknown number of men armed with assault rifles. They escaped in a taxi.

Seventy-six bullets were fired into the vehicle from both sides. They shattered the front and back windscreens, killing Jackie van Landingham, a secretary, and Gary Durell, a communications technician. Mark McCloy, who worked in the consulate's post office, was injured and was in stable condition, American officials said. The Pakistani driver was not hit and drove the injured to hospital.

The van was waiting at a traffic light at about 7.45am local time when the gunmen leapt out of a taxi. Police said later that they believed they had found the vehicle involved. It had been stolen earlier. About 30 people had been detained for questioning, but no arrests were made.

"The identity, affiliations and motives of the gunmen are not known," the American Embassy in Islamabad said. "We are outraged and saddened by this terrible act," the consulate in Karachi added. "Why and for what purpose the gunmen attacked our colleagues, we do not know."

Foreign diplomatic missions will be forced to review their presence in Karachi now that diplomats have become targets in the many-sided street battles that have made the city the most dangerous in South Asia. The US immediately closed the consulate and a large contingent of police took up guard outside the heavily-fortified compound. Diplomats were advised to stay indoors.

John Monjo, the US Ambassador to Pakistan, flew from Islamabad to Karachi. "An intensive search has been ordered," the Pakistan Government said. "We will spare no effort to find and arrest those responsible."

Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, said in Cairo that America and Pakistan would use "every means at our disposal to bring those responsible for this crime to justice". He added: "While the details of this brutal attack are unclear, it is yet another reminder of the dangers we confront in the worldwide struggle against terrorism."

The murders will further sour relations between the Clinton Administration and Ms Bhutto, who has done little to stop events spinning out of control. She has refused to ask the army to return to the streets to restore order, fearing that it would indicate that her Government is coming apart 14 months after it was returned to power. The military has said it would insist on sweeping powers of arrest if it were to take control.

The bus had diplomatic plates and carried the number 64, identifying it as American. The attack might have been in revenge for the extradition to America last month of Ramzi Yousef, an Iraqi suspected of involvement in the World Trade Centre bombing.

Leading article, page 19



Princess reviews Bangladesh projects

The Princess Royal, accompanied by Peter Fowler, the British High Commissioner, talks to villagers at Gobindapur in northern Bangladesh before concluding a four-day visit to the country yesterday. During her trip she toured relief agency projects funded by Britain's Overseas Development Agency. In Khulna city, 85 miles southwest of Dhaka, she spent half-an-hour among the poor in shanty towns. About 2,700 residents receive health care from the Save the Children, of which she is president. Today she begins a four-day trip to Sri Lanka, to review work carried out by Save the Children. In addition to inspecting charity programmes on her first visit to Sri Lanka, the Princess will also hold talks with President Bandaranaike Kumaratunga and her mother, Chandrika Bandaranaike, the Prime Minister. She will be the third foreign dignitary to visit the country since President Kumaratunga took office in November. The Pope and Khalida Zia, Prime Minister of Bangladesh, visited earlier this year. The visit will end in Trincomalee. *(AP/AFP)*

Taleban attack on Kabul

Kabul: Afghanistan's Islamic Taleban forces launched their first offensive against troops loyal to President Rabbani yesterday with an attack on southwestern Kabul, sources said.

The Taleban militants took up several positions that were held by Shia Wahdat fighters, who had been fighting government troops for three days. The Wahdat fighters had voluntarily given up their arms and positions to Taleban, which consists mainly of Islamic students, according to the Islamic Press Agency in Peshawar, Pakistan.

A presidential spokesman said 20 Taleban forces had been killed and another 26 captured. *(AFP)*

Police error jeopardises Mandela trial

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

AN ERROR by police or their lawyers may enable Winnie Mandela, the estranged wife of the South African President, to escape prosecution on a charge of corruption. In the meantime, the Government appears to be paralysed in the face of her intransigence, and unable to act against her.

After police searched her Soweto home, looking for documents that would connect her with alleged backhanders from a building firm, Mrs Mandela challenged the validity of the search warrant in the courts. Under an agreement between her lawyers and police lawyers, an answer was supposed to have been submitted in the Rand Supreme Court by 4 pm on Tuesday. No submission was made and Templeton Mageza, Mrs Mandela's lawyer, said that they were considering applying to the court for an order requiring police to return documents seized last week.

At the same time, Mrs Mandela, the Deputy Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology, is refusing to meet Thabo Mbeki, the First Deputy President, insisting that she wants to see her husband instead. Yesterday Mr Mandela ruled out a meeting with her, repeating that he had assigned his deputy to deal with the allegations jeopardising her position. He leaves today for the United Nations social summit in Denmark.

Officials said yesterday that Mrs Mandela had failed to attend two scheduled meetings with Mr Mbeki. "She indicated that she was not prepared to meet the Deputy President at all," Ricky Naidoo, his spokesman, said. "Last night the Deputy President indicated in a letter to her that it was a matter of urgency for them to meet ... he wants to resolve it."

In a statement, Mrs Mandela said: "The issue under discussion has assumed the proportions of a national crisis which requires the intervention of the President."

Vietnam ends great gem rush

Hanoi: Vietnam's great sapphire rush is being brought to an end as police chase away thousands of prospectors who converged on a remote mountain region with shovels in the hope of striking it rich.

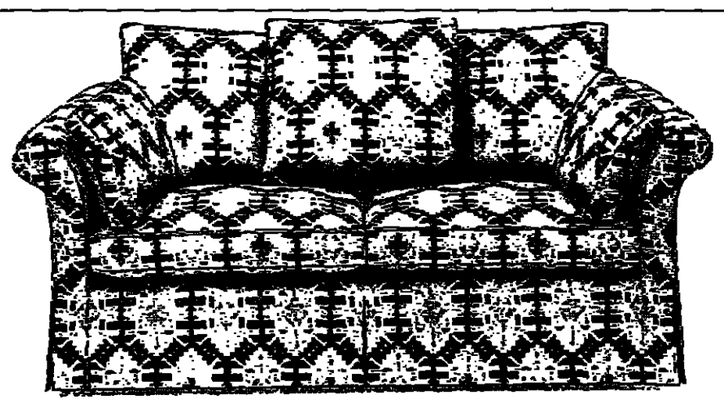
The *Vietnam News* reported yesterday that police and soldiers have set up roadblocks throughout Dac Lac province and driven away more than 5,000 illegal miners. Between 1,000 and 2,000 others have evaded the crackdown so far, it added.

Fortune-hunters began converging on the mountainous area last year after rumours spread that sapphires had been discovered in the isolated region about 120 miles northeast of Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon. Police dispersed them in October but a second wave of illegal mining began after the Lunar New Year in January.

Local people, who who are mainly farmers, also joined the hunt, bringing agricultural production almost to a standstill, the paper said.

Three sapphire-hunters were killed when a mine they were digging collapsed, other newspapers reported last month. The miners have also been blamed for destroying hundreds of acres of forests, while food prices have soared along with prostitution, murders and brawling.

Officials have confiscated about 50lbs in rough stones from miners. Gold and gem rushes have become increasingly frequent in Vietnam over the past few years as restrictions on travel have been lifted and high rural unemployment has prompted many to seek quick fortunes. *(AP/AFP)*



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*Subject to status. Written quotations on request.

NORTHERN ELECTRIC plc

Advice to Shareholders

The Board of Northern Electric has considered the announcement made by the Office of Electricity Regulation ("OFFER") on 7th March, 1995. The Board is surprised at the content and timing of this announcement.

The OFFER announcement does not make clear whether or when there will be a further tightening of price control nor does it make clear the extent of any such tightening. As a result, the Board of Northern Electric is unable to determine whether or not any future regulatory action will affect its ability to implement the proposals to enhance shareholder value, which were announced on 17th February, 1995.

The Board has been advised that the uncertainty created by the OFFER announcement is likely to lead to Trafalgar House being able to declare its offer unconditional as to acceptances as at the closing date of 1pm on Friday, 10th March. Remaining conditions of the Trafalgar House offer will need to be fulfilled or waived by 31st March, 1995 for the offer to become wholly unconditional and for shareholders to receive any consideration under the offer.

Trafalgar House has stated that its Revised Full Cash Alternative of £11 per Northern Electric share will not remain open for acceptance after 1pm on Friday, 10th March, 1995. The consideration that will be available to shareholders who have not accepted the offer by that time is currently worth less than the Revised Full Cash Alternative and is of uncertain value.

In the circumstances, the Board of Northern Electric, which has been so advised by S.G. Warburg & Co. Ltd., has reluctantly decided that it can no longer continue to recommend rejection of the Trafalgar House offer. Accordingly, shareholders are now advised to accept the offer and elect to receive the Revised Full Cash Alternative before it closes at 1pm on Friday, 10th March, 1995.

In view of the uncertainty as to whether the offer will become wholly unconditional or lapse, shareholders may wish to consult their own professional advisers as to whether they should instead consider selling their shares in the market.

Each of the Directors of Northern Electric is considering whether to accept the offer or sell in the market in respect of his personal shareholding, which amount in aggregate to 118,567 Northern Electric shares.

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The Directors of Northern Electric accept responsibility for the information contained in this advertisement. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the Directors of Northern Electric (who have taken reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information contained herein is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.

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Gingrich denounces 'socialist' press critics

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

IN AN attempt to win Washington's propaganda war, Newt Gingrich has taken the offensive against the Democrats and launched a broadside assault on every element of America's liberal establishment.

Mr Gingrich branded the media the mortal enemy of reform-minded Republicans and accused the White House of building a bloated bureaucracy that needed "to be replaced".

Facing some of the toughest criticism yet of the *Contract with America*, particularly Republican initiatives to reform the welfare system, the Speaker of the House has lashed out at those liberals who, he said, believed that "if you don't give every child a Ferrari you're cheating them".

Mr Gingrich has excluded almost nobody from his latest blitz. School projects that dealt with homosexuals and lesbians, he said yesterday, were a thinly-veiled attempt at recruitment by the gay community. Protesters who disrupted a lunch he was attending in Washington earlier this week were characterised as layabouts who wanted to extort money from the American taxpayer. "Why weren't they at work? Who are they? Who paid them?" he demanded.

During a private dinner this week, the powerful Congressman told a group of businessmen that the editorial boards of many newspaper contained "socialists" and that serious consideration should be given by corporations to whether they should advertise in publications holding opposing views. "I think it is perfectly legitimate in a free society for people to decide where they will put their money and their impact," Mr Gingrich said in a later television interview.

He declined to name the "socialists" but added: "I would be glad to get you a collection of editorials that only make sense if people believe that government is good and the free market is bad," he said. "Surely you can't really argue that there are not a substantial number of news editorial pages that start from an extraordinary pro-government, anti-free market bias."

Mr Gingrich's launched his attack as more moderate Republicans began privately to express fears that cuts in welfare programmes may have helped to fuel charges from the White House of right-wing insensitivity. In recent weeks, congressional Republicans have attempted to entirely restructure schemes for school lunches and cash welfare assistance, as well as proposing the abandonment of the current system of public housing and the elimination of most benefits for illegal immigrants. Yesterday, a committee approved legislation to alter radically the food-stamp programme for 27 million poor, mainly black, Americans. The proposed Bill would cut spending on food stamps by $16 billion (£10 billion) over the next five years and brought immediate condemnation from the Democrats who invoked images of starving children with distended stomachs.

Tony Blankley, spokesman for Mr Gingrich, acknowledged that the Speaker had been annoyed by the flood of criticism over the latest measures in the *Contract with America*. "Our point is, who is being callous? Is it the people responsible for the conditions that the poor live in today, or the people trying to fix that?" he said. "We are the people trying to fix that. For those responsible for these problems to claim some moral high ground is repugnant. We reject that."



Newt Gingrich, Speaker in the House of Representatives, fielding questions from reporters at a Capitol Hill news conference

Star witness in terror trial admits he is liar and fraud

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

THE star government witness in the biggest terrorism trial in American history took the stand for the first time this week and promptly confessed to being an inveterate liar, braggart and fraud.

Emad Salem, a 45-year-old FBI informant, is the linchpin in the Government's efforts to prove that Shaikh Omar Abdel Rahman, a blind cleric, and ten other Muslims, planned a "war of urban terrorism" against the United States by bombing numerous New York landmarks.

Mr Salem, who infiltrated the radical group, is being paid more than $1 million (£625,000) by the FBI for his testimony. By owning up to his past untruths, he apparently hopes to pre-empt defence claims that he is a hopelessly unreliable witness. Under oath on Tuesday, he nervously admitted telling a litany of lies to the FBI, immigration officials and even his wife. A former major in the Egyptian Army, he confessed to building a fantasy career as an intelligence agent.

He told the FBI he knew Arabic leaders, including Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, had access to atomic secrets, and claimed to have been wounded trying to protect the former Egyptian President, Anwar Sadat, when he was assassinated. These, he confessed, were just "bragging stories". "I tried to maintain myself as a big shot," he said.

The trial is the second stemming from the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Centre, in which six people died.

Shaikh Omar and his co-defendants are charged with a conspiracy to bomb the United Nations, the FBI headquarters in New York, and two tunnels under the Hudson River. They are also accused of involvement in the assassination of Rabbi Meir Kahane and another plot to assassinate President Mubarak of Egypt.

The defence is expected to claim that Mr Salem, who left Egypt in 1987 and began working for the FBI in 1991, set out to entrap the blind cleric and his followers in a scheme engineered by the FBI.

NYPD's nude gets the sack

New York: A woman police officer has been sacked for posing in *Playboy* magazine — but it was what she kept on rather than what she took off which cost her the job (Ben Macintyre writes).

Police Commissioner William Bratton said that Officer Carol Shaya-Castro, 26, had violated police rules by wearing, if only partially, her police uniform in photographs in the August issue. "She was using her uniform for personal gain," he said.

Ms Shaya-Castro was paid $100,000 (£61,000) for posing under the headline "NYPD Nude". The Commissioner did not say if she would have kept her Bronx patrol job if she had removed her uniform completely.

Brother of murdered Mexican politician seeks US asylum

BY DAVID ADAMS, LATIN AMERICA CORRESPONDENT

ONE OF the men at the centre of Mexico's political scandals, Mario Ruiz Massieu, former deputy Attorney-General, is seeking asylum in the United States because he says he fears for his life at home.

He neglected to mention that his bank account may also be in danger after Mexican investigators said that $6.9 million (about £4 million) had been found in his account with a Houston bank. Mexican sources say that other overseas bank accounts in his name hold another $10 million. The unexplained deposits are the latest episode in a saga that has gripped Mexicans. Señor Ruiz Massieu has been charged with covering up the murder of his brother, José Ruiz Massieu, the former Secretary-General of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), who was shot dead in a Mexico City street last September.

The death of the party's number two official convulsed the nation, coming only a few months after Luis Donaldo Colosio, the PRI presidential candidate, was assassinated at a campaign rally in March. José Ruiz Massieu had taken on the mantle of a reformer who planned to clean out PRI corruption. Mario Ruiz Massieu, a prosecutor who had been in charge of drug investigations, was appointed by Carlos Salinas, then President, to head the investigation into his brother's death. A month later he resigned, accusing top PRI officials of obstructing his efforts. Last week he published a book detailing his allegations.

But now Señor Ruiz Massieu is accused of shielding the former President's elder brother, Raul Salinas. On Monday Señor Salinas was charged with ordering and paying for José Ruiz Massieu's murder. Mario Ruiz Massieu was arrested in New Jersey on Friday after arriving with his family. He is charged with failing to declare that he was carrying $46,000 in cash. A former Mexican drug investigator who worked under Mario Ruiz Massieu has also accused him of having links to drug traffickers.

Banker 'taunted for being British'

BY BEN MACINTYRE

A BRITISH banker has filed a $30 million (£18 million) lawsuit in New York against his French boss, claiming that he was sacked after suffering persistent discrimination because of his nationality.

Russell Deakin, 29, from London, has accused George Courtadon, managing director at The Canadian Bank of Imperial Commerce in Manhattan, of creating "a hostile work environment" with his incessant anti-British remarks.

Mr Deakin, who was dismissed from his $335,000-a-year job as the investment bank's vice-president six weeks ago, maintains that Mr Courtadon called him "uncultured", "lazy" and a "thief" because he was English, while also implying that he might be homosexual.

"Repeated and constant remarks by Courtadon . . . about his British national origin and background" traumatised the English banker to the extent that he required medical treatment for emotional damage, the suit alleges.

Mr Deakin, who joined the bank in July 1994, claims that Mr Courtadon engineered an excuse to fire him and made false public accusions that Mr Deakin had stolen "the proprietary software that belongs to the bank".

In court papers filed in Manhattan state Supreme Court, the English banker listed a catalogue of anti-British jibes allegedly made by the Frenchman, including suggestions that "The French work harder than the English", and "You English have terrible food".

Among the more bizarre taunts attributed to Mr Courtadon is the observation that the Channel tunnel "will allow English hooligans to go to France to get drunk", and another, allegedly aimed at Mr Deakin's Brazilian wife, suggesting that Brazilian women "run around in small bikinis, are easy women, and are morally loose".

The writ claims other English employees at the bank suffered from nationalist goading. "British employees . . . were constantly derided about their race and national origin in contrast to their counterpart employees of French origin," it claims.

Mr Courtadon refused to comment, but a bank spokesman said the lawsuit would be contested.

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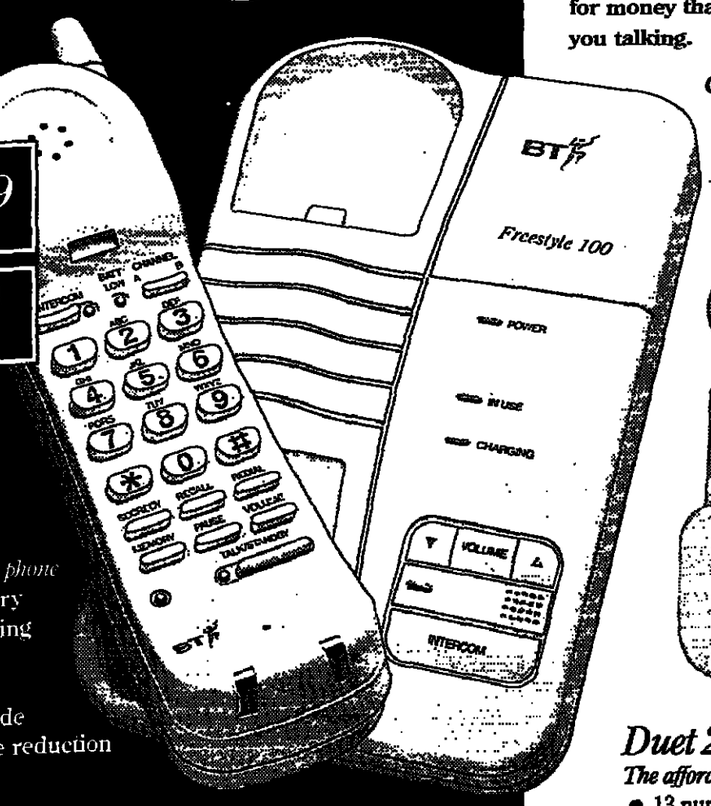
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Dangers from listeriosis ☐ How background can affect heart disease in women ☐ A more user-friendly treatment for high blood pressure



Hard lessons of soft cheese



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

THE SAGA of Mr Humphrey Errington's Lanark Blue cheese continues. Lanark Blue is a popular farmhouse cheese which was stocked by Harrods and bought by *Buckingham Palace*. But on December 2 last year the public health authorities struck. The cheese contained *Listeria monocytogenes*, the organism that causes listeriosis. Mr Errington was told to withdraw his cheese from the market. He has applied successfully for a judicial review, but if it does not find in his favour, he loses large sums of money and his trade; we lose a delicious cheese from the cheeseboard.

The Public Health Laboratory Service has rigid standards: more than 1,000 listeria organisms per gram and a cheese is considered potentially hazardous. A possible risk to some people cannot be denied, but the size of this risk to the general public needs analysis. Listeria is widespread in mammals, both domestic and wild as well as in many species of birds and fishes. It can be found in the air and in water, and survives well in grassland and in silage.

Some surveys have shown that up to 30 per cent of healthy humans have listeria in their guts, and others carry it in their noses and mouths; it can be transmitted by sexual intercourse. Listeria has even been cultured from human as well as cows' milk. The strains of listeria are of varying virulence.

An attack of listeriosis can be very serious. As well as a transient attack of diarrhoea, listeria can cause meningitis, encephalitis, skin sepsis, and a particularly nasty form of pneumonia — but fortunately it usually doesn't. Most people are no more likely than wild animals to suffer ill-effects from carrying it; but there are some groups who are very vulnerable and this explains the public health officials' course of action.

In pregnancy women's resistence to *Listeria monocytogenes* is very low. If infected, they can suffer a severe attack during the actual pregnancy and a relapse again after delivery. Their babies are likely to become infected; the incidence of infection in newborn babies in Britain is put at one in 18,000 live births but about a third of infected babies are born dead. Many of those who survive are usually premature births and develop septicaemia, pneumonia and meningo-encephalitis. Other groups at risk include the immunologically compromised, whether as a result of drugs (including all steroids) or from intercurrent illnesses, including malignant disease and Aids.

The question which will have to be decided is whether the danger of listeriosis would be better reduced — it cannot be removed — by banning soft farmhouse cheeses or by publicising the potential risks to vulnerable groups of people, and the need for them to choose their cheese with care. This means that pregnant women, in particular, should reconcile themselves to being unadventurous when choosing cheese and being prepared to spend 40 weeks eating Edam or pasteurised cheddar.

Listeria is so widespread — more than half the chickens sold in the United Kingdom are contaminated — that there are no measures that could ever completely remove the chance of infection.

Family hazard

RESEARCH has shown that women are less likely to have their chest pains investigated as thoroughly as men, and that when they have had a coronary thrombosis they are not followed up as carefully or treated with surgery so often. Recent research published in the *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health* gives some indication of the probable early background of women who are most at risk of developing heart disease in later life.

Even after allowance has been made for the possibility that the patient's mother may have had a restricted diet during pregnancy, that the patient may have had a low birth weight and poor weight gain in her early months, and that later risk factors such as smoking and lack of exercise have been taken into account, it was still found that the socioeconomic background of the patient's father was an important predictor of the likelihood of having coronary heart disease.

A study of 117,000 American nurses shows that nurses whose fathers were manual workers were 50 per cent more likely to have evidence of coronary heart disease, and 25 per cent more likely to have an actual heart attack, than were those born with the proverbial silver spoon in their mouths. Poor nutrition in later childhood is blamed.

Raised hope



DESPITE the behaviour of Chelsea fans on the continent last week, Dr Pieter Timmermans, a Dutch pharmacologist who works in Holland, Britain and the United States for Du Pont Merck, still rates watching English football clubs as one of his great pleasures. Dr Timmermans's enthusiasm is not confined to football. In charge of research at Du Pont Merck, he is equally ebullient about its latest product, Cozaar (losartan potassium), which is being launched this month for the treatment of hypertension. The control of high blood pressure became safer and more efficient with the introduction of the thiazide diuretics in the 1950s, and the betablockers ten years later. Both remain useful drugs, but they have troublesome side-effects that discourage some patients from taking treatment.

Calcium channel blockers and ACE-inhibitors have been available for the past ten years. ACE-inhibitors are particularly useful when there is some heart failure but they do have some side-effects, including a dry cough. Cozaar, the new hypotensive agent, is classified as an angiotensin II receptor antagonist; at this stage it appears to have fewer side-effects than other hypotensive agents and hence it is hoped the patients will take it regularly.

If Cozaar proves as effective as has been claimed in lowering blood pressure — and does not, like some of the other drugs used, cause impotence, cough, swollen legs, flushed faces, asthma or a raised cholesterol — Dr Timmermans's confidence will have been well founded.

Ian Robertson on the good and bad side of sensory deprivation

Relaxing in the torture chamber

I come to with a start in total darkness, suspended in a liquid warmth. Heart racing, my legs and arms thrash out for solidity. The ripply bath-sounds bring sudden recall — of the fact that I am lying naked, earplugged and sightless in a tank of Epsom salts in Clapham.

My pulse quickly returns to a drowsy beat, but nevertheless I feel refreshed, the way you do after a catnap. The dreary torpor, which lying in ten inches of Dead Sea-density solution in a sauna-size chamber had induced, is stirred by a restlessness which I identify as a vague sense of silliness leavened by mild boredom.

I have come to the South London Natural Health Centre to try "restricted environmental stimulation therapy" — also known as "floatation tank" (*sic*), whose contemporary New Age-type trappings belie a 50-year history of scientific and political controversy involving, among others, British intelligence, the Pentagon and the KGB.

On August 9, 1971, internment was introduced in Northern Ireland. Of the 342 men arrested at 4.30am that morning, 12 were to receive treatment that led to an international outcry and to the establishment of two high-level British government committees of inquiry.

The men were taken to an interrogation centre, where they were hooded in black bags of tightly woven cloth, and kept isolated in rooms filled with a constant noise "like the escaping of compressed air". They were isolated, dressed in boiler suits and made to stand against a wall, hands high above their heads and legs apart, for periods of up to 16 hours, with no sleep for the first two or three days.

The intelligence services of many countries had used aspects of these methods known as sensory deprivation and the KGB used similar techniques as standard softening-up treatment for prisoners destined for the show trials of Stalin's purges.

During the Korean War, however, sensory deprivation became headline news in America when US prisoners of war returned home, apparently having been brainwashed into pro-Communist views partly through sensory deprivation methods. This unleashed two decades of largely Pentagon-funded research into the psychological and physiological effects of sensory input to the human brain, involving some of the leading neuropsychologists of the day in scientific debate and ultimately in political controversy.

What was new about the Northern Ireland situation was the refinement of this old KGB craft into what some considered to be a sinister and Orwellian science. Professor Tim Shallice, one of the world's leading neuropsychologists, protested in a 1970s edition of the journal *Cognition* that academic study of these methods was unethical because of the resulting misuse of the research for inhumane purposes.

But what precisely is so cruel about sensory deprivation? The human brain is stimulus-hungry. For example, if an arm is amputated, the neurones in the brain which receive sensory input from that limb do not just stop firing — they change allegiance and begin to respond to the part of the body which neighbouring neurones represent.

Cutting off the human brain from meaningful and patterned sensory input does not stop the brain's activity, though research in the 1950s and 1960s did show slowing in brain activity, impairment of mental capacity and emotional disturbance after periods of as little as seven hours of sensory deprivation. What sensory deprivation does do, however, is to let brain circuits starved of outside stimulation run free, leading in many cases to frightening auditory and visual hallucinations, distorted thinking and disorientation.

A psychiatrist who assessed three of the Northern Irish internees concluded that all of them had developed a psychosis during sensory deprivation, including hallucinations, loss of sense of time, depression and delusional beliefs, and thought that permanent mental damage had occurred to at least one of the men he assessed.

So what on earth are the 20 or so commercial floating tanks in Britain doing offering mental torture to innocent citizens for the purposes of healing and recreation?

The answer is quite simple: if one has complete control over the degree and duration of sensory deprivation — I can reach up and press the light switch or open the door any time I like — then the whole meaning and complexion of these freewheeling brain circuits changes.

Not that I am having any hallucinations — much though the psychologist in me would love to experience them — but I am enjoying a deep and pleasant relaxation and a temporary release from the rack of time. OK, I confess I am at this moment having a little paddle up and down the tank while coining lines for this article — but in between such bouts of self-stimulation, I am about as unwound as I think I can get.

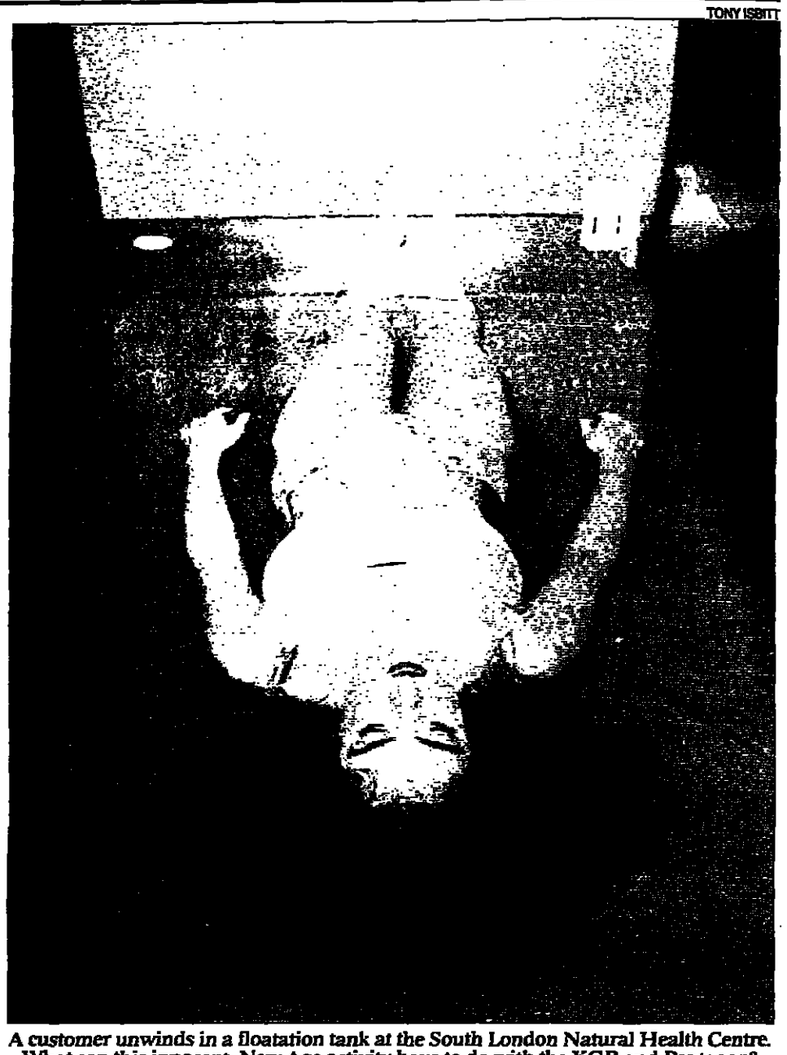
The ratio of breathless prose to scientific evidence in this new health-oriented craze of restricted environmental stimulation is still embarrassingly high. Nevertheless, there are one or two academic studies in decent international journals which tantalise the sceptical scientist with the possibility of positive health effects of this therapy — on lowering blood pressure for instance.

There is also a recent article in the respected journal *Psychological Medicine* suggesting improvements in tests sensitive to right-brain function as a result of 90 minutes in a floatation tank. This study was carried out by Jody Raab, currently doing her PhD in this area at the Institute of Psychiatry in London.

If someone can replicate her work, then not only will I have to come back for a drowsy paddle, but I will also feel impelled to do some very unfashionable left-brain reasoning, trying to work out what on earth is going on in my brain during this very peculiar practice.

● *The Floatation Tank Association, Tel: 0129 669 6300*

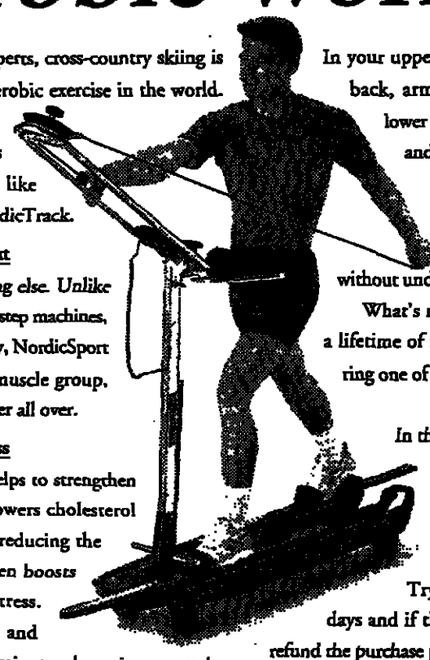
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The pounds that just won't fall off

We are beginning to understand why losing weight is so hard, says **Nigel Hawkes**

Is dieting hopeless? You might think so if you read the scientific literature. Last year, a gene that predisposes to obesity was discovered: now, a study from the same institution, the Rockefeller University in New York, has shown that the body fights hard to reverse any change in body weight.

Many people who have tried and failed to lose weight by dieting will say they knew this all along but, unfortunately, the fact that their own metabolism predisposes them to far does not help them deal with the consequences of being overweight. They would still be healthier, and probably live longer, if they could be thin.

These two Rockefeller studies have brought us closer to an understanding of what has long been a mysterious area: how the body controls weight. And the most remarkable feature is how well it works. The average person puts on just 10 per cent of their body weight over 20 years — the equivalent, as Dr William Bennett writes in this week's *New England Journal of Medicine*, of just a single carrot a day.

This supports the existence of powerful and effective mechanisms — one hesitates to call them feedback — that control body weight.

The latest study, also in the *NEJM*, shows that a 10 per cent loss in weight by dieting is accompanied by a 15 per cent reduction in energy expenditure by the body, which naturally tends to restore the body to its original weight.

Dr Bennett believes that we all have a kind of thermostat in our brains which is set to a particular fat level. When that level deviates, the "adipostat", as it has been called, can restore it in several ways: by increasing food intake or, more insidiously, by altering the efficiency of the metabolic processes so that less energy is burned up. It is even possible that, in some way, the adipostat also determines the amount of exercise we undertake.

But how does the body know what its fat level is? Here, the so-called obesity gene comes into the picture. The gene is responsible for producing a protein which tells the central nervous system the state of the body's fat store. Clearly, any defects in the protein disrupt the process, leading to obesity — which is just what another team at Rockefeller discovered last year.

The key question is whether we can reset the adipostat. The fact that it shifts slowly as we get older suggests that it may be open to adjustment — through diet, drugs, or physical activity. (Dr Bennett adds, tongue-in-cheek, a fourth possibility — brain surgery.) But the evidence is that the process is slow.

The final message is: a diet is not just for Lent, but for life.

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Innocent in the eyes of God

Clarence Brandley, who almost died on death row, is one of the few Americans speaking out against the death penalty, says Martin Fletcher



Clarence Brandley twice came within days of execution. His denunciation of the death penalty is, he says, "a voice in the wilderness"

Clarence Brandley's makeshift church occupies an old warehouse in a derelict area of south Houston. It is ringed by condemned housing, an abandoned bowling alley, a boarded-up bank and a thriving pawn shop. Inside, pinned to a wall, is an advertisement for the "U Go To Prison Transport Service", offering parishioners lifts to visit imprisoned relatives. From his rough wooden pulpit in this place he calls "God's house" Mr Brandley regularly denounces America's present passion for the death penalty.

"I hear all the politicians saying 'Let's kill more people'," he told a congregation of four adults, five children and a ramshackle choir last Sunday. "They'll do or say anything to get a vote, but that's not going to stop the problem. What kind of Christians hang and kill people, then sing and praise God on Sundays?".

Mr Brandley, a 42-year-old hulk of a man with sad eyes and withdrawn manner, spoke with feeling. He had, after all, spent nine years on death row for a murder he never committed, and was twice within days of execution. He survived to tell the tale, but finds that in a country paranoid about violent crime very few want to listen. The debate on the merits of capital punishment is finished.

Mr Brandley may be living proof that America's system of justice is fallible, that innocent men can be put to death, but he is also, he admits "a voice in the wilderness".

The service over, Mr Brandley drove 50 miles north to show me his native Conroe, a small town where even today whites still live in comfort one side of the railway track and blacks in wretched shacks the other.

It was here Mr Brandley's troubles began in August 1980 when a 16-year-old girl was raped and strangled at the high school during a volleyball tournament. Term was beginning ten days later. The town's authorities were desperate to find the killer. They homed in on Mr Brandley as the only black among the school's five janitors, one policeman telling him "since you're the nigger, you're elected".

The town's judges, public prosecutors and law enforcement officers all conspired to secure Mr Brandley's conviction despite having not a scintilla of evidence. Vital facts were suppressed, such as the discovery on the victim's body of Caucasian pubic hairs and blood that did not match Mr Brandley's. The defence was prevented from obtaining blood and hair samples from the other janitors. Key exhibits were "lost". Leads were not pursued. Prosecution witnesses lied, and defence witnesses were terrorised. The prosecutors and four consecutive judges, all "good ol' boys", secretly colluded and rigged proceedings.

Mr Brandley's first all-white jury split 11-1, the lone hold-out branded a "nigger lover" by his fellow jurists. A second all-white jury convicted him, and the date for Mr Brandley's execution was set for the court clerk's birthday to give her something to celebrate. It took seven years and two fruitless appeals before one of the janitors cracked, other witnesses with bad consciences began recanting, and a proper hearing was held well away from Conroe before a judge with no links to the town.

This judge, Perry Picken, declared that in 30 years he had never encountered "a more shocking scenario of the effects of racial prejudice, perjured testimony, witness intimidation, an investigation the outcome of which was predetermined, and public officials who, for whatever motives, lost sight of what is right and just". He named one of the janitors, Gary Acreman, and a former janitor, James Robinson, as the probable murderers. Even then, it was two more years before Mr Brandley was freed in January, 1990.

Mr Brandley found God in prison and began reading widely, but he had to watch his five children grow up without him, his mother age prematurely, and more than a score of his fellow inmates being led away to their deaths. He suffered one of the most egregious miscarriages of justice in recent American history, but it has done nothing to slow the country's rush to embrace capital punishment.

A record 80 per cent of Americans now support capital punishment, and the rate of executions is rapidly increasing. There were five in 1983, 11 in 1988, a record 38 in 1993 and nine in the first two months of 1995 alone. Few now attract any media attention.

Practically all politicans have jumped on the bandwagon, with even Democrats seeing it as the perfect issue to prove their toughness. The last really prominent opponent was Mario Cuomo, New York's Governor, and his stand cost him re-election in November. On Tuesday New York became the 38th state to reinstate capital punishment. Even the Supreme Court has tilted in favour. The only remaining debate is over streamlining the appeals process, with proponents arguing that the death penalty fails to deter because it takes so many years to carry out.

Texas has, meanwhile, displayed no remorse over the Brandley case. It has not apologised, paid him a penny in compensation, or moved to prosecute the real murderers. It has demanded $22,000 in child support payments that Mr Brandley was patently unable to make during his incarceration. None of Conroe's judges, district attorneys or law enforcement officers has paid any penalty, and almost all have been re-elected. Mr Brandley filed a $120 million lawsuit against them, only to be told they enjoyed immunity.

Texas has performed 92 of the 266 executions since the death penalty was restored in 1976 and continues to lead the nation with seven of this year's nine. George W. Bush, the state Governor and former President's son, now wants to halve the length of the appeals process, a move which would have ensured Mr Brandley's death had it happened ten years earlier. In January the state surpassed itself by executing a man whose own prosecutor had changed his mind about his guilt and secured someone else's conviction.

"I hope in my death that I'm that little bitty snowball in an avalanche that will stop all executions," Jesse Dewayne Jacobs said moments before his death by lethal injection. As Mr Brandley could have told him, there is little chance of that.

For a bite of life, taste a little danger



MAGNUS LINKLATER

'I wouldn't let my children do anything so foolish'

We had gathered in the large, draughty kitchen of the family home to witness an experiment in gastronomy. My mother had decided that we should make more use of the natural foods growing wild in the countryside around us. Specifically, she thought it absurd that we were ignoring the delights of the many and varied fungi that grew along the mossy ditches and in the dripping woods around the house. She had collected about a dozen specimens, some a dangerous-looking vermilion, some bright orange, others a delicate yellow. Only one was clearly a safe and sensible mushroom. She fried them all in butter and sat down to eat them. We sat down, too, and watched with interest to see whether she would die. She did not. Instead, she pronounced the result delicious, and the family menu expanded from then on.

It did not occur to us, in those distant days, that this was the height of irresponsibility. The concept of safe eating, of E-marks and sell-by dates, of health officers and the perils of *Listeria monocytogenes* had not percolated through to our part of northern Scotland. They had hardly percolated into the national consciousness at all. We bought cheeses from farmyard dairies that today would be closed down in the blink of an EU bureaucrat's eye. We collected mussels off the pier where boats moored and rusting pipes delivered who knows what into the otherwise pellucid waters. We ate randomly but well.

Reading of the decision this week from the Lanarkshire JP who has determined that Humphrey Errington, a Lanarkshire cheesemaker, must destroy his stocks of Lanark Blue, one of Britain's more delectable cheeses, on the ground that they contained higher than permissible levels of bacteria, brought home to me how far we have come since my childhood. Mr Errington who, I am delighted to see, is challenging the decision and seeking a judicial review, makes his cheeses under stringent conditions, and has them regularly tested. Nevertheless, the local environmental health officers, using standards that would have eliminated most of the cheeses we used to enjoy, say public health is at risk. That there have been no recorded fatalities in Britain from listeria in cheese, and only two or three identified cases since recording began in the 1960s, is neither here nor there. The guidelines, say the officers, have been breached, and that is that.

Arguing for lower safety standards, not just for food and drink, but for potentially hazardous activities such as climbing, sailing, skiing, whitewater rafting or anything else, is not, I recognise, going to win any Pulitzer prizes. The passions aroused by Edwina Currie's pronouncements on the safety of eating eggs, or the lax standards that led to the canoeing tragedy at Lyme Bay suggest that any attempt to put the clock back is doomed to failure. And in one sense that is right. If pregnant women are placed at risk by an over-ripe cheese, or children's lives endangered on a poorly supervised school trip, the rules must be tightened. But an obsession with safety at all costs heralds not so much the nanny state as the molly-coddled state: and that can mean the loss of something more than just a strong-tasting cheese.

Recalling my childhood days, I am sometimes appalled by the risks we ran. My brother and I, for instance, used regularly to paddle our canvas canoe across the tidal waters of the Cromarty Firth, with my dog perched at the stern. We wore no safety jackets, we were under no adult supervision. We chose calm days and avoided an ebbing tide, but otherwise took no precautions. The only danger I can recall occurred when a school of porpoises chose to adopt us and dived repeatedly beneath our craft, emerging playfully alongside, their huge tails crashing into the water inches from the paddles. Since each of them was about the size of the canoe, it was an alarming experience. But we carried on across the bay; it made an excellent story on our return. It was, of course, the height of irresponsibility — I can imagine the headlines if the worst had happened. Certainly, I would not dream of allowing my children to do anything so foolhardy.

But there is no doubt that by routinely confronting the dangers of life outdoors, we became more resourceful, more capable of dealing with the unexpected.

Equally, I dare say, the body which grows accustomed to bacteria in food develops immunity systems to cope with them. It is interesting to note that the major outbreaks of listeria poisoning have all occurred (in Switzerland and the United States) since the 1980s. Whether that is because cases were not officially recorded until the late 1960s, or because detection methods have become more sophisticated, is hard to say. But it may be that in an all-sanitised, all-protected, safety-guaranteed world, we are losing our ability to cope with the natural world. For however many safety acts are passed or EU directives introduced, nature itself remains obstinately red in tooth and claw.

A million-dollar film deal is not enough for Philip Kerr to spend, spend, spend, he tells **Giles Coren**

Writing his way into the movies

PHILIP KERR, the British novelist who has just sold his latest novel for $1 million to the British production company that made *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, is skiing in the Swiss Alps this week, oblivious to the excitement his success has caused back home.

"It probably looks as if I have run away," he admits, "but I planned this a long time ago as a reward for finishing the novel." If this is no disappearing act on the Stephen Fry scale, then as rewards go it pales by comparison with the cheque, for about £640,000, that he will find on the doormat when he returns.

Last year, Philip Kerr, 38, was named as one of Granta's 20 best young novelists. So were Will Self, Iain Banks, Kazuo Ishiguro, Jeanette Winterson, and Ben Okri — but although they win prizes aplenty, how often does one hear of a million-dollar deal? Salman Rushdie has declared himself a fan of Kerr's upmarket crime writing, but that is no guarantee of wealth. Something is afoot, not only in British fiction but also in the film industry.

"Working Title [the company which made the bid] is in fairly bullish mood after the success of *Four Weddings*," says Kerr. "When my publishers sent out a resumé, before the book was even finished, I started to get phone calls, and it seemed reasonable to hope for some big offers. But it came as a surprise that a British company was interested. Working Title is in the business of making films, not just acquiring scripts, and from my point of view, as someone who also writes scripts, I am establishing a relationship with a British company that might one day be interested in one of mine."

He is writing a script for another British company, Renaissance (producers of *Henry V* and *Much Ado About Nothing*), about the Lloyd's insurance disaster, and says "it's good to be in bed with two British companies". He is also under the covers with a Hollywood studio that bought an earlier novel, *A Philosophical Investigation*. How does the money compare?

"That deal was different. It was an option, which means I get an annual retainer until they make the film, *if* they make it. I don't get my lump sum until filming starts — I suppose the amount will be comparable to this one."

Kerr attributes the movie interest in his books to the fact that he "thinks pictorially". Perhaps those other youngish novelists, who do not, might resent the financial success of one whose literary efforts have not been as lavishly garlanded as their own, particularly after the cartiness that followed Martin Amis's demand for £500,000 for his latest novel.



Novelist Philip Kerr

"It is wise to assume one's fellow writers may not view one's own windfall with unqualified joy," he says, tactfully. "But I think most writers view films as a lottery, and if someone comes up trumps they can say 'well done'. The Amis thing differed in that the publishers were asked to sustain a novel some thought would not recoup its advance."

Kerr need not worry about advances any more, and relishes the freedom the money gives him to continue his work. "But it will change nothing. I will still work surgery hours. The $1 million looks an amazing figure on paper but it is not enough to go out and spend, spend, spend. It makes me feel secure, and to have job security in the Nineties has got to be good.

"Patriotism has played its part in my choosing Working Title. I remember when Colin Welland stood up at the Oscar ceremony after *Chariots of Fire* and said 'the British are coming'. Now that novelists like Tim Willocks and Nick Evans are selling books to Hollywood, and *Four Weddings* has done so well, perhaps it is coming true at last."

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Janet Daley



■ Preachers on homosexuality should ask: which is worse? Sexual hypocrisy or blackmail?

THE SPATE of church pronouncements on homosexuality this week has been earnestly graded by gay lobby groups. Cardinal Hume got about seven marks out of ten: high on compassion, low on practicality. The Church of England seemed to be trying — excuse the pun — to have it both ways, thus gaining nil points from all sides. And the Church of Scotland said, rather confusingly, that there should be more tolerance of acts which "it cannot be denied" are presented as unnatural in the Bible. So far as I can see, all of this sound and fury leaves actively gay people exactly where they were.

None of the statements — so widely touted as significant by homosexuals and homophobes alike — constitutes any change in what I have always understood Christian doctrine to be. The Roman Catholic Church is now saying that feelings are not wrong in themselves but the acts that follow from them can be. How is this different from traditional teaching? Isn't the whole point of the Christian ethic to resist whatever "impure" desires one has? Surely denying your own gratifications, when indulging them would go against religious law, is what a Christian life is supposed to be about.

> *Self-denial is an essential part of Christian morality*

Since Christianity holds that none of us is free from illicit desires and impulses, we cannot be blamed for *having* forbidden feelings but only for acting on them. This applies as much to heterosexual adulterers as to homosexuals. The comment by one gay group that it was "cruel" to expect those who were homosexual to remain celibate misses the point: self-denial is an essential part of Christian morality. Sacrificing sexual satisfaction — whether through chastity, monogamy or celibacy — may seem peculiarly cruel now that secular society has embraced the idea that it is the be-all and end-all of the human condition. But for Christianity, abstinence of one kind or another has always been part of virtue. So what's new?

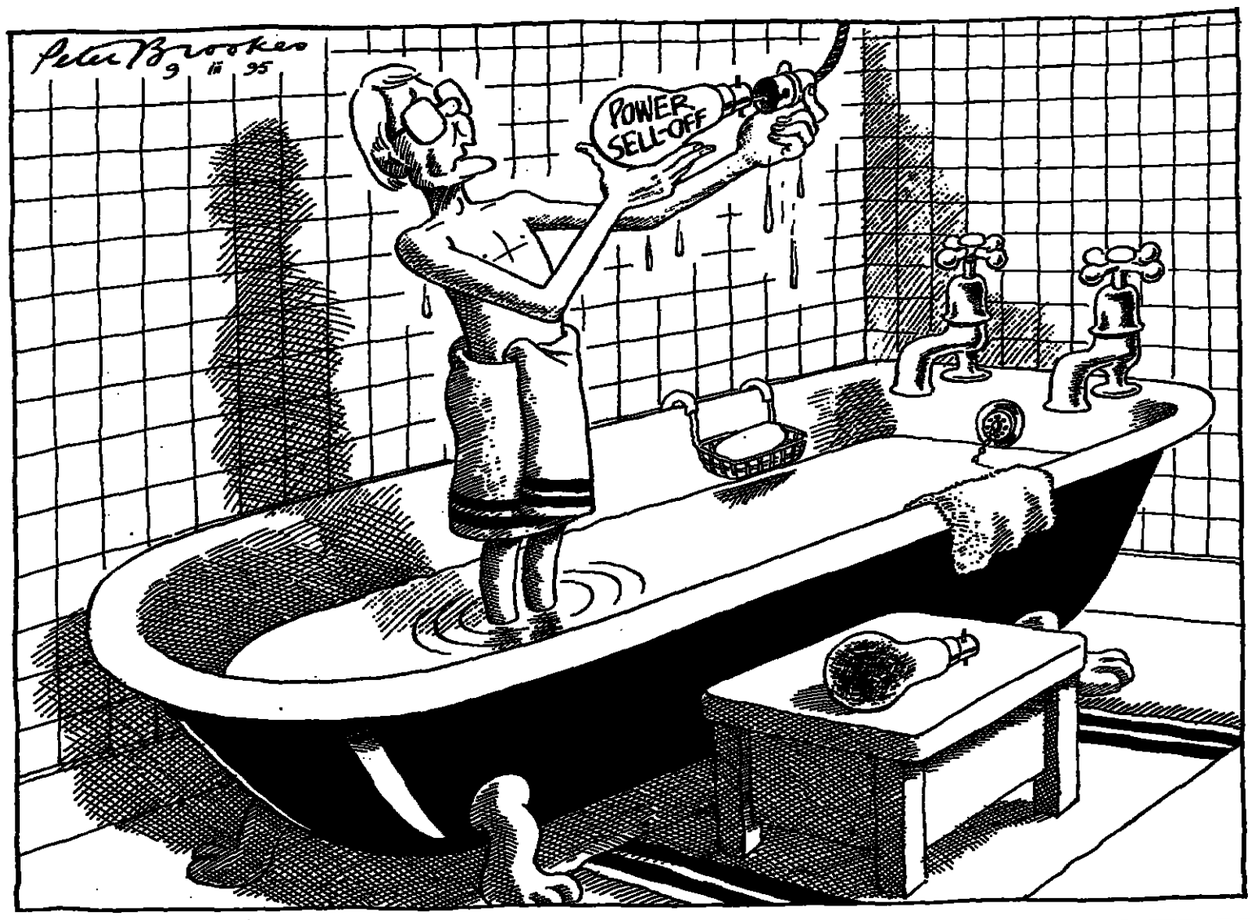
Well, there is a change of tone and emphasis. The churches are now couching their views on homosexuality in terms which, although they make little change in policy, are significant. Insofar as I, a non-Catholic, am fit to judge, Cardinal Hume's formulation seemed a noble blend of compassion and accepted doctrine. But by putting such stress on the principle that any love between two persons must be "treasured and respected", he seems to be accepting the most important tenet of the 1960s social revolution. It is now apparently unthinkable to question the notion that personal love — as enacted in one-to-one relationships — is an ultimate good, and to suppress it is wicked.

Hence the modern Bible's translation of "charity" as "love" in the quote, "And now abideth faith hope and charity (love)... but the greatest of these is charity (love)." This elevation of feeling and emotion as a moral measure is a dangerous departure both for the Church and, ironically, for the homosexuals whom it wishes to protect from abuse. What follows from the belief that sincerity of feeling is a good in itself, is that hypocrisy — the denial of any true feeling — is deeply wrong. This is, indeed, the crime of which the Church (or some of its clergy) are accused by the most militant gay activists. "Emotion good, denial bad" was the core doctrine of the 1960s. Gay activists "out" clergy who they say are concealing their past or present homosexual inclinations, on the ground that hypocrisy is absolutely evil. But is it more wicked than cruelty — the exposing of the most private aspect of a man's life? (Or blackmail, from which outing is derived?)

And feeling, of course, is what homophobia is about. I personally do not find homosexuals repugnant and so I have never been inclined to discriminate against them. But some people genuinely do. If sincerity of feeling is the moral test, what do we say to them? And it will not do to argue that only love is sacred, not hatred. Once you accept emotional truth as an absolute good, you must take all the consequences. It would be as hypocritical to deny your loathing as your loving.

GIVEN that no one is forced to be a Christian these days I am not quite sure why the gay lobby, most of whose members are non-believers, are locked into this messy dispute with the Church at all. But the clergy show every sign of feeling compromised by the challenge. They seem to be succumbing to the social fashion which insists that hypocrisy — the concealment of tendencies which are thought wrong — is unquestionably immoral.

But forget the loaded "h" word for a moment. If you are a Christian clergyman, you are obliged to believe that homosexual acts are sinful. If you have committed them, you must therefore feel guilt — and the appropriate response to guilt is private repentance. To be guilty because you have committed acts that your Church regards as illicit is an uncomfortable condition. But it is more defensible than declaring that, since you were acting on your genuine emotions, what you did must be right.



Pretty good Europeans

Undaunted by decades of oppression, Estonia, under a new, moderate Government, is set fair for success

William Rees-Mogg

Who are the "good Europeans"? Plainly Eurosceptics who want Britain to withdraw from Europe altogether would not claim to be. The phrase is usually commandeered by supporters of the Brussels bureaucracy who want to move to a single currency and a single European state. A stronger claim can be made by those who believe in *L'Europe des patries*; they want to combine the vigorous independence of the European nations with free trade and genuine co-operation. One advantage of the federalists is that they have the simple task of following the central institutions of the European Union; if they are journalists they often see themselves as the Washington correspondents of a future United States of Europe. They peer through the Brussels monocle.

The independent Europeans, on the other hand, have to try to understand what is happening in all the nations. For them, Europe is not merely Brussels or the unheroic persona of Jacques Santer. Europe consists of all its nations — it is more important to understand the problems of the peoples than the problems of the bureaucrats.

This week it is the Estonian people who have spoken decisively in their general election, and they too have a message for all of Europe. The outgoing government party has only just won the qualifying 5 per cent of the national vote. Otherwise it would have held no seats at all in the new parliament; that would have been an even worse result than the Canadian Progressive Conservatives, who held only two seats after losing their last election. Estonia is one of the most successful examples of post-communist development — along with the Czechs and Slovenians, the Estonians are widely regarded as examples to the rest of Eastern Europe. Why did they repudiate a young and energetic Government of radical reformers? Having led the way forward, are they now about to join a retreat?

Outsiders find it hard to understand the electoral system of Estonia; anyone who can master it could be sure of an annual bonus in six figures as a dealer in the derivatives market. Like the Irish, the Estonians have multi-member constituencies; like the Germans, they have a 5 per cent qualifying hurdle for parties to enter parliament; like the British, their electoral system has a built-in bias towards larger parties.

At all events, the latest Estonian elections have thrown out the Young Turks and put in a coalition of more moderate, more cautious and more middle-aged reformers. As the new coalition will be led by Tiit Vahi, who was the Prime Minister during the reform period after 1991, and includes Siim Kallas, the governor of the bank who set up the currency board which linked the Estonian kroon to the mark, the new Government has its own reformist record. All of the Baltic states, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, want to join the European Union, and are almost certain to be the first ex-Soviet states to do so. If one judges by purchasing power per head, they are even now not far behind the poorer EU countries. Portugal has a GDP per head which is 41 per cent of the American, Greece has only 34 per cent, Estonia 30 per cent, Latvia 30 per cent, and Lithuania 23. By the end of the century Estonia will probably have caught up with Portugal. The Estonians have already moved from a free-trade agreement with the European Union to current negotiations for association status. The association agreement is not yet signed, but Estonia, significantly, has not had to ask for any adjustment period.

Estonia is a remarkable example of the survival of an historic culture in the face of oppression. Grass grows through concrete. Until 1917, Estonia was part of the Russian Empire under the tsars; from 1940 to 1991, with the exception of the period of Nazi occupation, it was incorporated in the Soviet Empire under Stalin and his successors. Between the wars Estonia was an independent Baltic state, like its Finnish neighbour.

It is amazing how quickly the old trading patterns have reappeared, as well as the old culture. During the Soviet period, Estonia was fully integrated into the Soviet economy. Now the ranking of trading partners is Finland first, Russia second, Sweden third, Latvia fourth, Germany fifth and Britain seventh. There are still great opportunities for British trade. Two-thirds of Estonia's trade is with the European Union.

Thanks to its bold currency reform, which created a Hong Kong-style currency board, Estonia has one of the strongest currencies in Europe; perhaps the rise in the mark will make the kroon too strong a currency. When the kroon became independent it was valued at one kroon to ten roubles, the single currency of the Soviet Union. It is now worth 400 roubles. (Those in Britain who want to know how the pound could regain its independence if we first joined and then wanted to leave a single European currency can examine the happy post-Soviet experience of the kroon.) Indeed since 1992, the kroon has moved up against the pound and the dollar as well as against the rouble.

Why then did the voters turn on the old party leader, Mart Laar, the Younger Pitt of Estonia, and the Government of beardless technocrats? Their policies of radical open-market reform had considerable support in Estonian society; indeed they followed the policies of reform introduced in the period immediately after independence. Mr Laar's administration had suffered from scandals which had led to his earlier resignation as Prime Minister. The ferry *Estonia* had sunk — a national shock on the *Titanic* scale. But the main reasons seem to have been that the Government was too inexperienced, in too much of a hurry, too arrogant and too young. Mr Laar himself is only 34; leading members of the Government were in their twenties or thirties, though there were some older ministers.

The defeated administration had alienated two important constituencies, the rural population and the old. Agriculture still accounts for about a sixth of the Estonian economy. The Country People's Party was able to win seats for the coalition by its attack on the Government's seemingly heartless approach to Estonian farming. The old have been bewildered by the speed of change in the 1990s; they had survived the bad times; they now seemed to be mere spectators of the better times to come. A leader of only 34 could not identify himself with these feelings.

The new coalition Government describes its policy as that of "the social market economy". Its election statement defined this as "an open market economy" based on a stable and dependable currency, with low taxes on business and a shift of individual taxes from income to consumption. This is a reasonable but plainly a centre-right formulation.

In the early period after independence, the new Prime Minister, Mr Vahi, was himself responsible for carrying through the five essential reforms on which the post-communist recovery has been based. He liberalised prices, allowing them to rise to the world level. He carried the monetary reform which linked the kroon to the mark. He introduced the new constitution. He began extensive privatisation, using the German Treuhand as a consultant. He called the first free national elections since 1940. The new Government may benefit from the reforms of the outgoing administration, but will soften the impact of some of them in line with its social commitments.

The Estonians are probably now about halfway to full recovery. They started early, seizing the first opportunities of perestroika in 1986; the process will be more or less complete in economic terms by about 2005. By that time they should be a normal Baltic member of the EU, a second Denmark, though not as rich; they will be accompanied by Latvia and Lithuania. They have chosen this week to elect a middle-aged moderate government of the centre right in place of the young radical right. In terms of Estonian elections John Major would have defeated Michael Portillo. They too want to be "good Europeans", yet after 50 years of Hitler, Stalin and Soviet Communism, it was the lamp of national identity that kept their European culture alight.

Putting France first

Charles Bremner on a race with no prizes for Britain

Rarely has a consensus reversed as quickly as it has in the race for the succession to President Mitterrand. A dismal month as a candidate has stripped Edouard Balladur, the Gaullist Prime Minister, of his invincible aura and cast him in the role of underdog to Jacques Chirac, his party chief and two-decade campaigner for the presidency. As he has surged ahead, old Chirac the dogged loser has been reborn as Jacques the Conqueror, the bold leader with a mission to revive Gallic grandeur.

Barring accidents, electoral mathematics means one of the duelling Gaullists is virtually certain to take the presidency. Lionel Jospin, the late-comer candidate of the Socialist Party, has little hope. On the face of it, this should only be good news for the British Government, given its desire to stem the drift to deeper European union. Both Messrs Balladur and Chirac profess antipathy for the old federal ideal.

In reality, however, M Balladur believes France must stay in a European "hard core", whatever it is called. And for all his radical talk about French independence, M Chirac also accepts, like most of his countrymen, that there is no substitute for the special German tie, even if France feels that it is becoming the junior partner. Britain, the unreliable island with qualms about Europe, is no alternative.

M Jospin, a professorial type with an image of rectitude, has ignored misgivings over Maastricht and is courting the still substantial sentiment in favour of integration. He is promising swift monetary union and a commitment to majority voting to ensure that recalcitrant members — read Britain — cannot sabotage progress towards a millennium of pooled sovereignty.

His devotion to the old Euro-gospel is widely shared among the centre-right parties who are growing nervous about their decision to throw in their lot with the Gaullist Premier. This explains why much of the campaign rhetoric over Europe should be taken with a pinch of salt and why, for all their apparent differences, both Gaullists are doing their best to avoid discussion of where they plan to lead France when the Union reviews its future next year. Each, in varying degree, wants a strong Europe with weak institutions.

M Balladur continues to proclaim his commitment to a single currency in 1997 and a French place alongside Germany in the vanguard of union. At the same time he is asserting his commitment to national sovereignty and a voice in the future Europe that corresponds to France's calling as a world power.

M Chirac's stance is more confusing. In his new mantle as a social Gaullist, he is playing for the popular vote by denouncing Brussels and railing against the fiscal discipline that has helped to keep French unemployment at its painful level. At the same time, he says he is committed to monetary union, *le franc fort* and the reduction of deficits required for the EMU discipline.

The pro-European statesmen Raymond Barre and Valèry Giscard d'Estaing both decided this week not to enter the campaign, partly because no one was interested in an honest debate. On the other extreme, Philippe de Villiers, the nationalist candidate who has about 8 per cent of the polls, is railing against a conspiracy to hide the fact that EMU means a transfer of sovereignty.

There is no question that a President Chirac, or Balladur to a lesser extent, expects to oversee a change in France's longstanding partnership with Germany. To the dismay of the elite, the shift is already well under way with the emergence of Germany as the pre-eminent power. The crunch will come when Bonn insists on the political price it requires for the "sacrifice" of the mark to a single currency.

The Gaullists see Britain as a useful balance to Germany and like to point out the common interests of the two old rivals as medium powers with military and diplomatic clout. M Chirac says the President must make sure that France and Germany do not gang up against Britain at the 1996 conference.

However, no one should imagine a rosy new entente in which a Gaullist President helps London tone down Maastricht in the name of "*L'Europe des patries*". If elected, M Chirac and Alain Juppé, his likely prime minister, will, like M Balladur, try to make Europe work for France. This means, among other things ensuring there is no dilution of the common agricultural policy which so benefits the farmers whom the candidate has been assiduously courting.

In the latest of the many guises of a long career, the unpredictable M Chirac is now an interventionist and a protectionist who opposes free trade. He also means in true Gaullist form to fight for barriers to the American "cultural invasion". Combined with a pricklier sense of national pride, these are hardly attitudes likely to make a Chirac presidency much more Brito-friendly than that of the pragmatic and predictable M Balladur.

Top spin-doctor

CONSERVATIVE Central Office is flirting with crisis management. The front-runner to take over as the party's director of communications is John Stonborough, an expert in sticky situations. His hands are full at the moment dealing with the collapse of Barings.

Stonborough's name is being bandied about in Central Office, where sources say he has had a session with John Maples, one of the party's deputy chairmen. I caught up with him yesterday as he was trying to engineer a positive image for the asset management arm of the Barings empire.

The 46-year-old former journalist, who used to work with the BBC's Roger Cook, currently runs a media relations company. Yesterday he admitted being interested in the post, which carries a salary of more than £65,000. "I know John Maples, and we have talked briefly — some time ago," he ventured cautiously.

However, a Tory source insists Stonborough is top of a shortlist "of no more than three" drawn up by Maples. The party has reportedly struggled to fill the post — Conservative Central Office is a far from happy ship and it is strapped for cash, to boot. But Stonborough is engagingly modest about his chances of succeeding Tim Collins, the present long-serving incumbent: "Tell me if you hear I've been appointed."

Puffing on

THE LORDS and Commons Pipesmokers Club settled down for a good smoke-in to mark National No Smoking Day yesterday at the Sherlock Holmes Museum in Baker Street, London. The Lords Harris, Mason, and Belhaven and Stenton were wreathed in an impenetrable fog as they puffed away defiantly.

"We are cocking a snook at the anti-smoking lobby," explained Lord Mason, the former Labour minister and convener of the club, in his deerstalker. "I think Holmes would have grunted in disgust at the thought of a No Smoking Day.

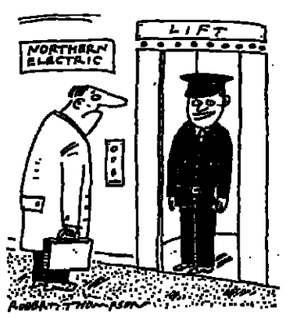
"I always say: if you want to be happy for a day, go fishing. If you want to be happy for a week, get married. If you want to be happy for a month, kill a pig. If you want to be happy and contented for all time, smoke a pipe."

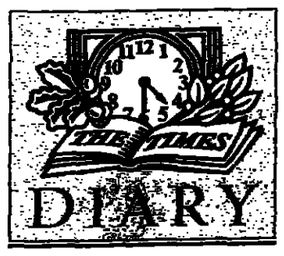
Gem dilemma

THE Queen faces a dilemma on the jewellery front when she visits South Africa later this month. Should she, or shouldn't she, wear the necklace and bracelet she was given as a 21st birthday present when last in the country?

Old hands may be offended if she doesn't sport the rocks (21 diamonds) presented to her by General Smuts, then the President. Others will be appalled if she appears to flirt with the old regime by wearing them. Buckingham Palace is playing safe: "We do not know yet what jewellery she will be taking with her."

GOING DOWN...





● *Gardeners digging in over the Royal Horticultural Society's plans to move its famous Lindley library out of London have been classified a new species by the society's apparatchiks. The Marchioness of Salisbury and other green-fingered protesters are known as "Brent-a-mob" — after the Lindley's librarian, Dr Brent Elliott.*

Whip lash

THE LATEST member of John Major's Government in hot water is Greg Knight, the Deputy Chief Whip, who is charged with imposing order among the Tory benches. He has been summoned to appear today before the Speaker Betty Boothroyd for a dressing-down.

"He's got four cars parked in our underground car park — and one is not even taxed," protests one MP limited, like other MPs, to one space. But Knight's line-up is impressive: a Rover, a Chevrolet, a Studebaker and a Jensen.

Pastures old

THE DUKE of Marlborough is experiencing a little local difficulty. His plan to plant Christmas trees on fields in the Glyme Valley on his estate at Blenheim in Oxfordshire has enraged conservationists.

His Grace does not need planning permission but locals are livid over his refusal to back a government scheme for keeping the traditional meadows of the Upper Thames tributaries. A petition is on its way.

"It's outrageous that one of the country's leading families is not applying for entry to the scheme," splutters Dr George Gandy of the Glyme Valley Action Group. "It is a really beautiful spot, covered in cowslips in spring with orchids in the summer." An agent for the estate declined to comment.

Undeterred

TO HIS considerable surprise, the poet and author Laurie Lee was killed off the other day by a couple of local schoolgirls working on a literature project in his home village of Slad in Gloucestershire.

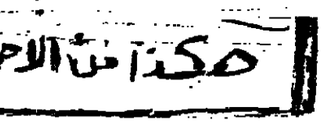
The 80-year-old was sitting outside his local pub when the girls appeared. "Excuse me, sir," said one. "Can you tell me where Laurie Lee is buried?" Lee put them right but felt strange about it.

Reflecting on the incident yesterday, he said: "Try to imagine it. They looked at me as if I was a bit of Cotswold stone and asked me where I was buried. It ruled me out as a biological possibility but at the same time gave me a sense of extraordinary immortality."



Laurie Lee: still in good form

P·H·S



ROAD TO DISARMAMENT

Mayhew's pragmatic approach to IRA arms is correct

The disarmament of the IRA is the most important precondition of a lasting peace in Ulster. As long as the republican movement remains capable of bombing the City of London or of bringing down a military helicopter by mortar attack, any constitutional settlement will rest on precarious foundations. For this reason, the complexities of "decommissioning" must be acknowledged with honesty and forethought. The desirability of the end is not in question; it is the means which must be discussed.

Sir Patrick Mayhew's statement on IRA disarmament this week made Unionists understandably nervous. On Tuesday, the Northern Ireland Secretary explained to a Washington audience including the American Secretary of State that an agreement in principle to "disarm progressively" is the most important requirement that will be made of republican terrorists before Sinn Fein can meet ministers. Agreement will also have to be reached on the means by which the surrender of weaponry might be achieved. Finally, the British Government will demand "the actual decommissioning of some arms as a tangible confidence-building measure to signal the start of a process".

This is a risky strategy. As the Ulster Unionist Ken Maginnis observed, it expects only a "token gesture" of the terrorists before talks begin with ministers. There is a reasonable anxiety among the majority in the North that the future of the Province will, after all, be debated with the threat of renewed violence hanging over the negotiating table. Yet it is precisely to avoid this that a subtle approach is needed. Persuading a criminal organisation, that has for long relied on the persuasive power of violence, to hand over its weapons, requires a complete change of assumptions within the republican movement. The Government could easily issue an ultimatum demanding the surrender of all the IRA's Semtex explosive and rifles within the next two months. Yet to do so would be an act of great naiveté. What matters is that the process of disarmament should begin as soon as possible.

Sir Patrick's remarks suggest that there is a reasonably strong predisposition in Sinn Fein's ranks to begin this process. After lengthy exploratory talks, there seems to be a willingness on the republican side to address this fundamental problem. Ministers are right to emphasise the importance of attitudes as well as action in finding a solution to this dilemma. Without a commitment in the republican leadership to gradual disarmament, robust demands for immediate results would amount to no more than rhetoric. All else depends on a fundamental decision within the IRA to elect the road to comprehensive disarmament.

This road may have many twists and turns. There is some evidence that the IRA would prefer the security forces to be informed discreetly of where arms may be found, than for paramilitary groups to hand them over in any formal way. It may prove helpful to involve foreign observers in the collection and verification process. To date, the best proposal has been for a series of "no-forensic" arms dumps — locations where weapons could be deposited and destroyed on the understanding that they would not be used as evidence in court. The Government and Sinn Fein must soon make clear how they propose to proceed. The people of Ulster, meanwhile, will need to be patient. No process in the peace negotiations will require greater dexterity than this.

R FOR RECOVERY

Money spent on cutting illiteracy is money saved

Children who leave primary school unable to read or write properly are effectively excluded from the world of education. Secondary school lessons pass in a blur, and the temptations to truancy and then crime often prove irresistible. By the time they reach school leaving age, they may well be unemployable. Money spent on ensuring that all young children reach basic standards in literacy, then, ought to be money well spent.

How extraordinary, in that case, to find that the Government has decided not to renew funding for the highly successful Reading Recovery programme, introduced three years ago from New Zealand. A research report published yesterday by the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority found that six-year-olds taught by this method made twice as much progress as children without it, and 70 per cent more progress than children being taught a narrower phonetic-based course.

Normal support for bad readers in primary schools rarely enables children to catch up with their peers; it usually just helps them to avoid falling further behind. By contrast Reading Recovery, which requires half-an-hour's one-to-one tuition for about 16 weeks, brings 70 to 80 per cent of children up to or beyond the average standard of their peers. After that, they no longer need help because they are independent, confident readers. And reading, once learnt, is a skill that need never be lost.

Reading Recovery is initially more expensive than other programmes: between £780 and £1,000 per child, compared with just under £600 for both the phonetic programme and normal specialist support. However, the cost of Reading Recovery is concentrated in the first year, and for most children will be negligible thereafter. Other remedial education is usually needed year after year; and the older a child becomes, the less effect it tends to have.

So investment in Reading Recovery ought to be seen as seedcorn money. It saves money later on in the child's school career, and it saves society even more. The Home Office estimates that half of all prisoners are functionally illiterate. And a report by the management consultants Ernst & Young recently estimated that poor basic skills, particularly illiteracy, cost the country £10.2 billion a year. The bill for social benefits and lost tax revenue is incalculable.

The best route out of poverty is education. Yesterday's study found that Reading Recovery worked best on children taking free school meals; that is, the most socially deprived. It was also particularly effective for the least able readers in the study. Children who come from a home with few books, where reading is not highly valued, are both the most at need and those most likely to benefit from the scheme. Without help, they are likely to leave school with no qualifications and to lead the same dependent life as their parents. Yet escape from that cycle of dependency is possible through success at school.

The money needed to keep the scheme at its present level is not huge: perhaps £8 million a year. If it were to be extended nationwide, the cost would be around £30 million a year, a minuscule percentage of the education budget. For a Government committed to raising standards in schools, this is a tiny but essential price to pay.

KILLINGS IN KARACHI

Pakistan's metropolis now looks more like Beirut

The murder of two American diplomats in Karachi yesterday has sown alarm in the Government of Benazir Bhutto, Pakistan's increasingly unconvincing Prime Minister. Ms Bhutto is due to visit America next month and the killings, coming in the wake of the widely-publicised trial for blasphemy of a teenage Christian boy, are bound to ensure that her welcome in Washington will be much less effusive than she would like.

The murders are accounted to be in reprisal for the extradition from Pakistan to America of Ramzi Ahmed Yusuf, the Iraqi national alleged to have masterminded the bombing in 1993 of the World Trade Centre in New York. Ms Bhutto has condemned the killings as part of a "well-planned campaign of terrorism", designed "to create fear and harassment" in Karachi. What she has not done, however, is to explain how she proposes to check the descent into anarchy of her country's commercial capital. Karachi is now an urban battleground whose resemblance to Beirut increases with each passing month: more than 1,200 people have died there since the beginning of last year. Cynics have suggested that the Government in Islamabad would do well to redeploy in Karachi those Pakistani UN peacekeepers who were withdrawn recently from Somalia.

The city's body-politic now lies poisoned and prostrate. Feuds are conducted across complex battle-lines. Ranged against each other are political parties and private armies, defined by reference to ethnicity, criminality or religion — and often by a combination of all three. "Mohajirs" (descended from the Urdu-speaking refugees from northern India) are at war with Sindhis, while the Pashtuns are at war with both; the Sunnis are locked in bloody combat with the Shias, and often rake each others' mosques with gunfire; and drug-barons control large swaths of the city. The police are often unwilling to act, or unable to do so — the force is corrupt, and the warlords are never short of political backing.

Karachi's Inferno is the product of Pakistan's own contradictions. The country has failed abjectly to marry the unitary Islamic aspirations of its founding fathers with the multi-ethnic nature of its society. The majority of Pakistanis do not want an Islamic state, and have expressed their disdain for religious parties on those rare occasions when the country has held free elections. Yet the inability of the country to create a stable democracy can be attributed directly to the habit of successive governments in Islamabad, and their satraps in the provinces, to kow-tow to the mullahs. In this, Ms Bhutto has shown that she is just as guilty as any of her predecessors.

As for Karachi, there can be no panacea. In the short term at least, Ms Bhutto must entrust the security of its citizens to the country's army. The military high command now answers to a civilian Government. It must be presented with a tightly-tailored mandate, designed to bring to the city a semblance of order. The collapse of Karachi would be an economic catastrophe for Pakistan: it is estimated that the country lost $1 billion in potential foreign investment last year because of the city's lawlessness. In the longer term, Ms Bhutto would do well to consider returning the city to an accountable municipal administration. For Karachi — like the rest of Pakistan — needs more democracy, not less.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Cost to nation of 'snouts in trough'

From Mr Gordon Pepper

Sir, A little-noticed aspect of executives' snout-in-the-trough is the effect of an abnormal increase in salary on the size of a pension (letters, March 6). If the increase happens just before retirement the cost to the company is very little but that to the pension fund can be great.

Regulation is needed. The consulting actuary of the pension fund should certify the discounted value of any increase in pension; this should be approved by the company's remuneration committee; and reported to shareholders. The consulting actuary should have been appointed by the trustees of the pension fund and not by the executives of the company. But who appoints the trustees of the pension fund?

I would not be writing this letter if I were still joint senior partner of a firm of stockbrokers. Senior executives appoint a company's professional advisers. A letter such as this would have lost us some corporate clients, perhaps blue-chip companies.

One may be willing to accept risks personally for a point of principle, but it may be better to argue in private than in public if the result can be damage to a firm. Being whiter than white is not a recommended strategy for survival in a competitive jungle.

Yours faithfully,
GORDON PEPPER,
Reform Club, Pall Mall, SW1.
March 7.

From Mr Colin Darracott

Sir, The chief executives of the UK's largest companies and the bosses of the 24 privatised electricity and water companies have between them received £15 million in profits in the last three years, according to the *Investors Chronicle*. They have another £22 million on the way, and get annual salaries of around £500,000.

It is therefore unsurprising to read in Philip Bassett's report of March 6 that the Government wants to switch attention to benefits we have all gained from privatisation, rather than the huge amounts of money which chief executives of privatised industries have gained. But when the *Investors Chronicle* and even the Institute of Directors think that top people's pay has gone beyond the limits of decency, something has to be done.

Charter 88 believes that it should be possible to bring the disciplines of the market increasingly into our public life without giving this sort of offence. So at our conference on March 14, entitled "Public standards, business values: Making them work together", a panel of leading City figures will be making a serious effort to find a better way of regulating our financial institutions and controlling the cupidity of our captains of industry.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN DARRACOTT
(Coordinator), Charter 88,
Exmouth House,
3-11 Pine Street, EC1.
March 6.

From Mr Ian Bryant

Sir, The large increases in top people's pay have become more excessive since the reduction in the top rate of income tax. One might naively have expected that change to lessen the need for such increases, but of course, human nature being what it is, allowing top earners to keep 60p in each extra £1 instead of only 20p actually stimulated the desire for huge bonuses.

Some of these City megastars may wish they had moderated their raises when they hear a future Labour Chancellor justify doubling the top rate of tax "to help reduce the scale of increase in top salaries".

Yours faithfully,
IAN BRYANT,
Hipping Hall, Cowan Bridge,
Kirkby Lonsdale, Cumbria.

Business letters, page 29

Lamont's loyalty

From Mr F. R. Salinger

Sir, I believe that Sir Robert Rhodes James has got it wrong ("What did Lamont expect?", March 7). It should be the boss who resigns when the policy fails, not his lieutenant. I am old enough to have seen this principle honoured in the services throughout the Second World War and I believe that it was a help in getting us through.

Norman Lamont was a loyal lieutenant to John Major in carrying out the latter's policy on the exchange-rate mechanism and was sacrificed to the now current principle of passing the buck down. This seems to me one of the modern principles that has contributed greatly to our national decline and it is this example by our Prime Minister that may be one of the reasons for his unpopularity.

Yours faithfully,
FREDDY SALINGER,
Greenacres,
Southlands Lane, West Chiltington,
Pulborough, West Sussex.

Sports letters, page 42

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Missing elements from an epistle to a godson

From the Right Reverend Dr Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford

Sir, Matthew Parris, in his column today, is right to be troubled by the teaching of Jesus about divine judgment. So am I. It is best, as he says, to do good for its own sake, rather than through fear of the consequences. But it is not quite as simple as that.

First, in a world of manifest injustice, so much innocent suffering, and where the motives of others are hidden from us, religious faith looks forward to a time of true justice, of divine rather than human judgment. But we cannot have the good being revealed in all its goodness without the bad being revealed in all its wickedness (and the line runs through us all).

This revealing, in the presence of God, is what makes heaven heaven or the opposite. So divine judgment, however unpalatable to a modern sensibility, is an essential element of any faith that right will ultimately be vindicated — Judaism, Christianity and Islam to name but three.

Secondly, belief in a day of judgment and salvation was part of the culture in which Jesus taught and he expressed himself in the vivid imagery with which people were familiar.

Thirdly, the whole thrust of the message and mission of Jesus is that in him we can even now meet the everlasting mercy and compassion of God. I always find Luke xii, 4-7, instructive:

To you who are my friends I say: do not fear those who kill the body and after that have nothing more they can do. I will warn you whom to fear: fear him, who after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Believe me, he is the one to fear.
Are not sparrows five for two pence? And yet not one of them is overlooked by God. More than that, even the hairs of your head have all been counted. Have no fear; you are worth more than any number of sparrows.

This recognises the fact that fear is part of us; says that, given this, it is better to fear God than man — but directs us to a God who values each one of us with an infinite love, as though we were the only one.

Yours faithfully,
†RICHARD OXON:,
Diocesan Church House,
North Hinksey, Oxfordshire.
March 6.

From Mr Geoffrey Hine

Sir, If Matthew Parris is now expressing views that have "troubled" him since his youth, why did he stand as a godparent?

Having abrogated his responsibilities he has now returned publicly to denigrate his godson's personal decision to be confirmed into the Church. He is certainly right in saying that his essay is an unsuitable confirmation present to the unfortunate Gordon, but how he arrives at "well intended" defeats me.

Yours in faith,
GEOFFREY HINE,
245 Windsor Road,
Carlton-in-Lindrick,
Worksop, Nottinghamshire.
March 6.

From Mrs Mysie Sutherland

Sir, I think the Bishop of Oxford must have made the position of sinners quite clear to all his hearers. Matthew Parris must have heard the awesome fact of life that the wages of sin is death.

That we are all guilty of sin is inescapable. But God sent His Son not to condemn the world but that the world through Him should be saved. Most of us know we are wrong but are too proud to accept that while we were yet sinners, Jesus died for us.

I remember hearing someone on the radio some years ago ask Archbishop Desmond Tutu what he was going to preach about that day. He replied, "Oh, my usual: God is love." What else is there?

Yours trustingly,
MYSIE SUTHERLAND,
The Rectory, Church Lane,
Barton in Fabis, Nottinghamshire.

From Mr Rutton Viccajee

Sir, The Bible trumpets, implies, suggests, commends and whispers throughout its length a number of absolute truths, many of which I suspect may be politically unacceptable to the non-Christian: that God is holy, that man is fundamentally sinful, that the two cannot meet without the Cross, that without the Cross there is a judgment and that a man's self-reliance on his own choices and efforts leads to disaster.

Mr Parris ought to accept the Christian message not because he should help his fellow man out of higher motives than fear of punishment, but rather because he is doubtless a thoroughly fine chap who ought to accept the spiritual realities of the way things are and not only save himself, but find peace with a God who is indeed a loving guide as well as a Holy Judge.

I wish Mr Parris well in his journey.

Yours faithfully,
R. B. VICCAJEE,
4 Abbots Close, Guildford, Surrey.
March 7.

Too many lawyers, too few jobs

From Mr Barry Shaw

Sir, I was dismayed to read (Legal News Roundup, February 28) that the College of Law is taking 200 extra students in London on its legal practice course (LPC) in September.

My firm recently advertised for just one more trainee solicitor, to commence this year. In just over a week we received over 400 applications, some of which arrived by courier, facsimile, recorded delivery and in person.

Sadly, it is unlikely that most of the applicants will receive an offer in time to commence in 1995 and many will probably be lucky to procure a training contract for 1996. In 1994, some 6,000 law students completed the LPC, competing for approximately 3,800 training contract vacancies. Over 7,000 will complete the course this year. Many incur substantial debt to cover the fees and their living expenses.

The training committee of the Law Society recently announced its continuing policy to rely on "market forces" to control the number of LPC places, rather than take action to impose a limit. Meanwhile, the predicament of the thousands unable to procure training contracts must be demoralising.

A training contract should be a prerequisite to a place on the LPC, thereby restricting the numbers.

Yours sincerely,
BARRY SHAW
(Recruitment partner),
Wallace & Partners
(Solicitors),
9 Great James Street, WC1.
March 1.

Tax and the family

From Mrs M. A. Edwards

Sir, The Secretary of State for Health (letter, February 27) misinterprets one vital factor. The increase in working women is not always because of their growing independence but often the result of economic necessity.

"This deep-seated change" results in two, three or four-year-olds being placed in nurseries and older children often coming home to empty homes, thus adding to family stress; it is certainly not the right way to promote "the saving of marriages".

Yours sincerely,
M. A. EDWARDS,
24 Palmers Way, High Salvington,
Worthing, West Sussex.

From Mr Denis A. Palmer, JP

Sir, Virginia Bottomley's assertion that the conventional family is still by far the norm indicates a rather muddled view of the results of the deep-seated changes which she admits have occurred as a result of the Government's agenda.

The euphemistically described "care in the community" is basically a failure because it does not take into account the resentment by children of the "burden" of caring for a parent alongside their many other responsibilities.

Society does not necessarily benefit from economic policies which create wealth and allow its members to keep as much money as possible. It would, however, hugely benefit from policies encouraging fondness and concern and rejection of greed, sleaze and self-aggrandisement.

Yours faithfully,
D. A. PALMER,
20 Clarence Drive,
Englefield Green, Surrey.

Landmine controls

From His Honour Judge Keith McHale

Sir, Landmines are for indiscriminate killing and maiming and incapable of the "responsible" use to which Mr Davis, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (letter, March 8), suggests they might be put.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH McHALE,
141 Albemarle Road,
Beckenham, Kent.

From Dr Andrew Porter

Sir, I have just returned from Afghanistan, where I witnessed the horrific effects of landmines on the civilian population of Kandahar. The day before I left, two young boys were killed when their sheep strayed on to an uncleared patch of land.

Of course there should be a total ban on manufacture and export of mines. But it is even more urgent to research and develop more efficient methods of clearance. The pace of demining in developing countries is painfully slow, due to the very low level of technology available. It should be the responsibility of the firms which manufactured these weapons to provide funding for this initiative.

Even the Second World War methods, such as tanks fitted with flails, would be preferable to the hand-held detectors which were the only implements available in Afghanistan. Much more effort must be put into clearance technology to avoid continuing tragedy in the years ahead.

Yours etc,
ANDREW PORTER
(Consultant paediatrician),
18 Chequers Park, Wye, Kent.

Hunting the fox

From Mr John Howard-Jones

Sir, As a working sheep farmer I take strong exception to Mr John McFall, MP's suggestion (letter, March 3) that many of our losses at lambing time are caused by bad husbandry.

Maybe he should confine his energies to his constituency of Dumbarton and leave farming to the countryman.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HOWARD-JONES,
Cholsey Farm, Ibstone,
High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.
March 5.

From Mr S. D. Turner

Sir, As a shepherd who takes a great pride in the standard of husbandry and welfare in his flock, I would like to invite Mr McFall to come and participate in the rigours of outdoor lambing, and witness the intense effort by all those involved to ensure that mortality is kept to an absolute minimum, despite 100-hour working weeks and the vagaries of the weather.

Fox control is essential to reduce losses of lambs and ground-nesting birds. On this estate alone the gamekeepers have accounted for nearly 30 foxes since summer. Mr McFall's glib comments might be somewhat tempered if he endured the heartbreak of picking up lambs mutilated by a fox after all efforts to ensure they remained fit and healthy.

Yours faithfully,
S. D. TURNER,
Flint Farm Cottage,
Goodworth Clatford,
Nr Andover, Hampshire.
March 4.

A-level standards

From Dr P. J. Holt

Sir, You report (March 3) the concern of the Engineering Council about the decline in the standards of students' mathematics. The new London A-level pure maths syllabuses are scheduled to start in 1996. After a period of subtly and almost imperceptibly eroding the standard of this examination (partly by over-generous marking, partly by a gradual chipping away at the syllabus), the powers-that-be seem to have decided that, since they have elicited little criticism so far, they can get away with more radical measures.

Now quite substantial sections of really important, well-established A-level mathematics are to be eliminated, leaving a syllabus which as little as ten years ago would have seemed ludicrously exiguous to both teachers and lecturers in the subject.

That this should happen at all is deplorable; the action is doubly unacceptable in that it occurs when we are being vehemently assured that A-level standards are being maintained.

Yours faithfully,
P. J. HOLT,
229 Malden Road, Cheam, Surrey.
March 3.

Walter Allen

From Mr Keith Waterhouse

Sir, Your excellent obituary of Walter Allen (March 2) makes no mention of his kindness and generosity towards younger writers. As you note, the publication of his much under-rated novel *All in a Lifetime* "clashed with that of a spate of depictions by younger writers ... of working-class life". This did not prevent him from selflessly giving them a leg up.

Walter Allen not only read and recommended for publication my first novel *There is a Happy Land*; he then recruited me as a fiction reviewer for the *New Statesman*, introduced me to literary figures he thought might be useful — I then knew no one in London — and in short "took me up", with no object other than that of promoting my work because he liked what I wrote. I know that he gave the same helping hand to several other young writers of the day.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH WATERHOUSE,
The Garrick Club,
Garrick Street, WC2.

And some there be . .

From Mrs Malcolm Hord

Sir, I think my obituary (letters, March 2, 6) will follow the theme of my school reports — "could have done better!"

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH HORD,
24 Brunswick Gardens, W8.
March 6.

Hidden warning

From Mr Robert Warner

Sir, Mrs Robson (letter, February 24) is right to draw our attention to the threats concealed in vehicle inscriptions, such as "Community recycling". But all is not doom and gloom.

In Lancashire recently I saw a slow-moving van bearing the inscription "Service Detection Vehicle". It is good to know that efforts are being made to seek out this rare form of behaviour.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT WARNER,
169 Poplar Grove,
Kennington, Oxford.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 8: His Excellency Herr Peter Hartmann and Freifrau von Blomberg-Hartmann were received in farewell audience by Her Majesty and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Federal Republic of Germany to the Court of St James's.

Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose was received by The Queen.

Sir Kieran Prendergast was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Turkey.

Lady Prendergast was also received by Her Majesty.

The President of the Republic of Korea and Mrs Kim Young Sam were entertained to Luncheon by The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh.

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present.

Her Majesty invested His Excellency with the Insignia of an Honorary Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George.

The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, this afternoon opened the newly refurbished building of St Luke's Hospital for the Clergy, Fitzroy Square, London W1, and was received by the Chairman, St Luke's Hospital Council (the Venerable Derek Hayward), the Reverend Paul Thomas (General Secretary and Hospital Administrator) and the Mayor of Camden (Councillor William Budd).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness attended a Service in the Chapel before touring the Hospital and meeting patients and staff.

The Queen, with The Duke of Edinburgh, subsequently met those associated with the Hospital and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

Lady Dugdale, Mr Simon Gimson and Captain Edward Macfarlane were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Freeman and Liveryman, the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers, this evening attended the Court Dinner to Masters and Clerks at Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge, London EC4.

Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis was in attendance.

By Command of The Queen, the Baroness Trumpington (Baroness in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this morning upon the Arrival of The President of the Republic of Korea and Mrs Kim Young Sam, and welcomed His Excellency and Mrs Young Sam on behalf of Her Majesty.

By Command of The Queen, the Baroness Trumpington (Baroness in Waiting) Called Upon the Governor-General of Belize this afternoon at the Hyatt Carlton Hotel, Cadogan Place, London SW1, and, on behalf of Her Majesty, welcomed His Excellency on his Arrival in this Country.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 8: The Prince Edward this afternoon arrived at Royal Air Force Northolt from Geneva, Switzerland.

Lieutenant Colonel Sean O'Dwyer was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 8: The Princess Royal today carried out engagements in Jessore.

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 8: Major General Michael Swindells today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, 9th/12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales's), upon relinquishing his appointment as Colonel of the Regiment.

Brigadier Hugh Pye also had the honour of being received by Her Majesty upon assuming his appointment as Colonel of the 9th/12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales's).

ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 8: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning visited Duchy property in the Eastern District.

His Royal Highness, Duke of Cornwall, this afternoon opened The Prince of Wales School, Maiden Castle Road, Castle Park, Dorchester, and was received by Major General Mark Bond (Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Dorset).

Mr John James was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, President, The Prince's Trusts, afterwards attended a Reception for supporters of the trusts' Dorset Appeal at the Poundbury Centre, Bridport Road, Dorchester.

Mr Matthew Butler was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 8: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Patron, The Zebra Trust and The Zebra Housing Association, this evening opened the new Common Room at Sentosa House, Upper Montagu Street, London W1.

The Hon Mrs Wills was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 8: The Duke of Kent, Colonel, Scots Guards, this afternoon received Major General Murray Naylor.

The Duchess of Kent this morning visited Wallasey School, Moreton, Birkett Avenue, the Wirral, Merseyside, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Merseyside (Mr Alan Waterworth).

Her Royal Highness, Patron, this afternoon visited the Age Concern Headquarters, Thomas Street, Liverpool, and later visited the Woolton Day Centre, High Street, Liverpool.

The Duchess of Kent this afternoon opened the South Liverpool Ambulance Station, Speke, Liverpool, Merseyside.

Mrs Peter Troughton was in attendance.

Royal engagements

The Prince of Wales, as Patron of the Royal Society for Nature Conservation, will visit the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust's project at the Midger Wood Nature Reserve, Wotton-under-Edge, at 11.30; will attend a luncheon with staff and supporters of the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust at the Robinswood Hill Country Park at 1.00 and will open the new business support centre of Business Link Gloucestershire at Chargrove House, Main Road, Shurdington, Cheltenham, at 2.15. Princess Margaret will attend a livery dinner of the Haberdashers' Company at at Haberdashers' Hall at 7.15.

The Duke of Gloucester will open the Royal Institute of British Architects' National Conservation Group conference at the Business Design Centre, NW1, at 9.50.

The Duke of Kent, as Chancellor of Surrey University, will attend a dinner for retiring high officers at Boodle's at 7.40.

Roman M6 is dug up in back garden of council house

Ancient road gets on the map at last

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

THE Roman equivalent of the M6 has been found running through the back garden of 18 Acorn Avenue in Newton-le-Willows.

Rob Philpott, an archaeologist from the National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside, was given permission to dig while the local council refurbishes properties on the Wargrave Estate. Using a mechanical digger, he found the road just below the surface of the garden.

The road was built in about 100 AD to link Warrington and Carlisle. Its existence has long been known but its precise course was uncertain.

Mr Philpott says the excavation has shed new light on the construction of Roman roads, which were not bettered until the 18th century. "The ancient builder of the road had the forethought to dig three drainage ditches at the side of the road because the land at the time was particularly wet." Mr Philpott says. "This is a remarkable discovery, the missing link which gives us a full picture of Romanic infrastructure in northwest England."

All that remains of the road is the lower foundation layer of pebbles, dug from local gravel pockets. Even that will soon be covered over again to protect it from erosion. But before then the road will be recorded and plotted on to Ordnance Survey maps.

DAVE KENDALL



Liam McGuire, left, of St Helens council, and Rob Philpott examine the remains of the Roman road Mr Philpott discovered in the garden of a house at Newton-le-Willows

Memorial service

The Right Rev Mervyn Stockwood

A memorial service for the Right Rev Mervyn Stockwood was held yesterday in Southwark Cathedral. The Bishop of Southwark officiated. Mr D.W. Faull and Miss M. Cryer read the lessons. Canon Dominic Walker, the Rev Giles Harcourt and Canon Peter McCrory read excerpts from Mervyn Stockwood's own writings. The Right Rev Lord Runcie gave an address. Among others present were:

Miss Marion Stockwood (sister), Mr Bill Stockwood; the Right Rev Ronald and Mrs Bowlby, the Right Rev Richard Garrard, the Right Rev Ronald Gordon, the Right Rev Edward and Mrs Knapp-Fisher, the Bishop of Lewes and Mrs Cundy, the Right Rev Michael Marshall, the Right Rev Hugh Montefiore, the Right Rev Jim Montgomery, the Right Rev Alan Rogers, the Right Rev David and Mrs Say, the Right Rev Kenneth Woollcombe, Lord Cocks of Harrelliffe, Lady Rupert Nevill, the Hon Nicholas and Mrs Wallop, Sir Timothy Daunt, Mr Justice and Lady Collins, Sir Leslie Fielding, Sir John Margetson, the Rev Sir Derek Pattinson, Sir William van Straubenzee.

Mr Denis W Ball, the Very Rev Michael and Mrs Mayne, the Ven Peter Dawson, Canon C R J Bradley, Canon and Mrs Ronald Brownrigg, Canon and Mrs Martin Coombs, the Comtesse de Chambrun, Mrs Jane Ellison, Canon Eric James, Canon and Mrs Eric Reid, Canon C. Studdert Kennedy, Canon Howard Root, the Rev Charles and Mrs Lansdale, Rear-Admiral and Mrs Austin Lockyer, Mr and Mrs George McWatters, the Rev Andrew Henderson, the Rev Arthur Payton, the Rev Donald Reeves, Brigadier and Mrs John Sarper, Mr John Smallwood, Mr D K L Todd, the Rev Derek and the Rev Sheila Watson, Sister Winifred, SSM, Mr John Warrell.

The Very Rev Maurice Stewart-Jean, St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin), the Rev R I Pyne (chaplain, Royal Navy), Canon Barry Wright (senior chaplain, Metropolitan Police Service), Mr Harry Bramma (director, Royal School of Church Music), Mr P A Adler (Kelly College), Mr Brian Smith (Hammersmith United Charities), and Mr Nick Weiss (Royal Association in aid of Deaf People).

Viscount Camrose

A Memorial Service for Viscount Camrose will be held in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey at 12.15pm on Thursday, March 30. Those wishing to attend are asked to write for tickets to: The Assistant Receiver General (Protocol), Room 30, The Chapter Office, 20 Dean's Yard, Westminster Abbey, London, SW1P 3PA, enclosing an addressed envelope by March 16. Tickets will be posted on March 23. All are welcome.

Luncheons

Lord Mayor of Westminster

The Lord Mayor of Westminster and Sir John Egan, Chairman of the London Tourist Board, were the hosts at a luncheon held yesterday at City Hall to mark the promotion of tourism in London and the United Kingdom.

Ministry of Defence

Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge, Chief of the Defence Staff, was the host yesterday at a luncheon given by the Ministry of Defence at Admiralty House in honour of General Tadeusz Wilecki, Chief of the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Sir Ivan Lawrence, QC, MP, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the UK branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, and Mr George Foulkes, MP, joint honorary treasurer, were the hosts yesterday at a luncheon held at the House of Commons to welcome the Commonwealth Parliamentarians attending the 1995 Parliamentary Seminar at Westminster.

Danish-UK Chamber of Commerce

Mr Peter Lilley, Secretary of State for Social Security, was the guest of honour and speaker at a luncheon of the Danish-UK Chamber of Commerce held yesterday at the Danish Club, Knightsbridge. Mr James G. Davis, chairman, was the host.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T. Armstrong-Taylor and Miss K.L. Coles

The engagement is announced between Timothy, elder son of Mr and Mrs E.S. Taylor, of Hertford, Hertfordshire, and Kate, only daughter of Mr and Mrs C. Coles, of Wheathampstead, Hertfordshire.

Mr G.J. Brent and Miss N.J.M. Smart

The engagement is announced between Guy, younger son of Mr and Mrs B. Brent, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, and Nicola, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs E. Smart, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

Mr M.N. Calderbank and Miss L.J. Stamper

The engagement is announced between Martin, younger son of Mr and Mrs Ian Calderbank, of Aynho, Northamptonshire, and Louise, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs David Stamper, of Barningham Park, Suffolk.

Mr I.W.E. Engel and Miss S.R. Scott

The engagement is announced between Ivor, son of the late Mr Ernest Engel and of Mrs Heidi Engel, of Cuffley, Hertfordshire, and Sara, younger daughter of the late Jim Scott and of Mrs Peter Dimmock, of Windlesham Park, Surrey.

Mr N. Guder and Miss A. Carswell

The engagement is announced between Nafiz, son of Mr and Mrs Sadi Guder, of Istanbul, and Alice, daughter of Mr and Mrs Wilson Carswell, of Orpington, Kent. The marriage will take place in Istanbul in May.

Mr R.E.L. Oliphant of Condie, Yr, and Miss L.R. Ryder-Cole

The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of the late Mr R.G.L. Oliphant and of Mrs Oliphant, of Cranleigh, Surrey, and Lucy, only daughter of Mr C.H. Cole, of Michigan, USA, and Mrs J.C.D. Ryder, of Rempstone, Dorset.

Mr G.J. Ritchie and Miss M.I. Morison

The engagement is announced between Gavin John, elder son of Ian and Eileen Ritchie, of Lasswade, Midlothian, and Madeleine Iona, only daughter of Niall and Alison Morison, of Stonegate, East Sussex.

Captain N.H. Vinson and Miss A.E. Scott

The engagement is announced between Captain Nigel Vinson, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment, younger son of Mr and Mrs Terence Vinson, of Budock Water, Cornwall, and Ailsa Eleanor, elder daughter of Dr Allan Haxton Scott, of Umtata, South Africa, and Mrs Tanya Bielecka, of Orford, Suffolk.

Captain J.W. Walker and the Hon Georgina Napier

The engagement is announced between Captain Jonathan Walker, Grenadier Guards, only son of Sir David and Lady Walker, and Georgina, younger daughter of Lord and Lady Napier and Ettrick.

Mr D.H.F. Ward and Miss A.F. Reed

The engagement is announced between Duncan, youngest son of Dr and Mrs Haydn Ward, of Ashtead, Surrey, and Annie, youngest daughter of Mr Douglas Reed and Mrs Margaret Reed, of Barnstaple, Devon.

Reception

Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs was the host at a reception held yesterday at 10 Downing Street in honour of the Overseas Delegates of the Forty-Fourth Parliamentary Seminar 1995 of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

Church in Wales

The Bishop of St Davids, the Right Rev J Ivor Rees, retires on October 15.

Birthdays today

Air Marshal Sir Roger Austin, 55; Mr Bill Beaumont, sports broadcaster and writer, 43; Mr Andrew Bennett, MP, 56; Dr M.G. Brock, former warden, St George's House, Windsor Castle, 75; M André Courreges, fashion designer, 72; Mr Herbert Coutts, city curator, City of Edinburgh Museums and Art Galleries, 51; the Hon Sir Roualeyn Cumming-Bruce, former Lord Justice of Appeal, and his twin brother Lord Thurlow, 83; Mr Bobby Fischer, chess player, 52; Mr John Golding, trade unionist, 64; Major-General J.P. Groom, former director-general, Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, 66; Mr Neil Hamilton, MP, 46; Professor Sir Donald Harrison, laryngologist and otologist, 70; Dr T.L. Johnston, former Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Heriot-Watt University, 68; General Sir Frank King, 76; Sir Norman Lindop, former Principal, British School of Osteopathy, 74; Mr R.G. Martin, company chairman, 74; Mr David Matthews, composer, 52; Sir Ronald Melville, civil servant, and his twin brother Mr A.D. Melville, solicitor and classics scholar, 83; Sir Nicholas Monck, civil servant, 60; Professor K.E. Robinson, former Vice-Chancellor, Hong Kong University, 81; Mr Howard Shelley, concert pianist and conductor, 45; the Rt Rev James Simpson, Moderator, General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, 61; Professor Sir David Weatherall, haematologist, 62; Mr David Willetts, MP, 39.

Dinners

HM Government

The Hon Nicholas Soames, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, was the host yesterday at a dinner given by Her Majesty's Government at Lancaster House in honour of Herr Jörg Schönbohm, State Secretary of the German Federal Ministry of Defence.

Holborn Law Society

The President of Holborn Law Society, accompanied by Mrs Whitehead, presided at the annual dinner held last night at the New Connaught Rooms. Among those present were:

Lord Williams of Mostyn, QC, the Vice-Chancellor and Lady Scott, the Chairman of the Law Commission and Lady Brooke, Lord Templeman, the Vice-President of the Law Society and Mrs Young, the Vice-Chairman of the Bar and Mrs Penry-Davey, the Master of the City of London Solicitors Company and Mrs Crush, and the presidents of local law societies and their ladies.

The International Institute of Biotechnology

Dr Barry Buckland was the guest of honour at the Fellows' Dinner of The International Institute of Biotechnology held last night at The Institute of Civil Engineers after he had delivered the 1995 medal lecture. The medal and award were donated and presented by Professor W.G. Haydon-Baillie. Professor H. Brunner, Professor J.L. Ngu, Professor H. Saedler, Professor B. Witholt, were admitted to fellowship. Among others present were:

Dr and Mrs J Birch, Professor C Bucke, Mr and Mrs D Buckland, Professor A T Bull, Professor and Mrs T E Burlin, Dr and Mrs N Carey, Professor P H Clarke, Dr R F Coleman, Dr B Dixon, Dr and Mrs J C Dodd, Sir Leslie Fowden, Dr P M Hammond, Dr and Mrs D J Hardman, Mrs W G Haydon-Baillie, Professor R B Heap, Professor G Holt, Sir James and Lady Lighthill, Professor and Mrs M D Lilly, Professor and Mrs J M Lynch, Professor J Melling, Dr W G Porter, Dr and Dr S Queener, Mrs D M Ruault, Mr B Ray, Professor B Richards, Professor G Schmidt-Kastner, and Dr and Mrs P J Warren.

Foundation for Science and Technology

Lord Butterworth, Chairman of the Council of the Foundation of Science and Technology, presided at a lecture and dinner discussion held last night at the Institute of Materials. Dr David Clark, Dr Brian Eyre and Sir William Stewart were the speakers.

WS Atkins Ltd

The Hon Sir Archie Hamilton, MP, was the host at a dinner given by the Chairman and Directors of WS Atkins Ltd in the House of Commons on Tuesday, March 7. Sir George Young, MP, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, was principal speaker. Representatives of city institutions, industry, the police, local government and directors of the company were among those present.

Latest wills

Sir Patrick Dean, of London W1, British Ambassador in Washington, 1965-69, left estate valued at £339,133 net.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Amerigo Vespucci, explorer, Florence, 1451; William Cobbett, essayist and politician, Farnham, Surrey, 1763; Taras Shevchenko, poet, Ukraine, 1814; Dame Lilian Braithwaite, actress, Ramsgate, 1873; Ernest Bevin, Foreign Secretary 1945-51, Winsford, Somerset, 1881; Vyacheslav Molotov, statesman, Kukaida, Vyatka, 1890; Victoria Sackville-West, novelist and biographer, Knole Castle, Kent, 1892; Yuri Gagarin, first astronaut to orbit the Earth 1961, Smolensk, 1934.

DEATHS: David Rizzio, favourite of Mary Queen of Scots, murdered, Edinburgh, 1566; Jules Mazarin, cardinal and statesman, Vincennes, France, 1661; Samuel Jebb, physician, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, 1772; Arnold Toynbee, social philosopher, London, 1883; William I, German Emperor 1871-88, Berlin, 1888; Hippolyte Adolphe Taine, philosopher and historian, Paris, 1893; Frank Wedekind, dramatist, Munich, 1918.

Napoleon Bonaparte married Josephine de Beauharnais, 1796.

Berkhamsted Schools

The Governors of Berkhamsted Schools (incorporating Berkhamsted School and Berkhamsted School for Girls) are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr P.J. Williamson as Chairman of Governors in succession to Mr B.C. Hines.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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If a prophet foretells prosperity, it will be known that the Lord has sent him only when his words come true. Jeremiah 28 : 9 (REB)

BIRTHS

BRETT - On February 26th, in Belfast, to Karen and Adam, a son, Henry Tristan Garrett, a brother for Elinor, Claire and Ann.

FALK - On March 7th 1995, to Magnus and Elizabeth (née Ironside), a daughter, Emma, a sister for Rebecca.

FITZALAN HOWARD - On March 4th, to Joanna and Alexander, a son.

HARTIGAN - On 6th March, to Lewis and Lynn (née Evans), a son, Henry Rufus, a brother for Frederick James.

HENDRY - On 3rd March, to Lucy (née Dennis) and Athol, a son, Oliver Robert.

HOWARD - To Brian and Hilary (née Fish), a son, Oliver R., on 1st March in Hexham, Northumberland.

INGRAM - On 2nd March at Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, to Sarah (née Cottle) and Richard, a daughter, Eleanor Sophie Claire, a sister for William.

MacLEOD - On 6th March, to Fiona and Hamish, a son, Fergus Alexander.

McCORD - On March 5th in Duesseldorf, to Victoria (née Engels) and Peter, a daughter, Jennifer Rachel Clare.

McNEILE - On 25th February 1995, to Abigail (née Vincent) and Peter, a daughter, Phyllida Mary Rose, a sister for William.

OSBORNE - On March 5th, in Hong Kong, to Polk and James, a daughter, Josie.

ROBJOHNS - On March 3rd, to Sharon (née Bottley) and Jon, a daughter, Florence Rose Cottrell, a sister for Harvey and Beatrice.

STAVRINIDIS - On 4th March 1995, in Madrid, to Susie (née Pagliarani) and Hector, a beautiful daughter, Laura Patricia.

TATE - On 7th March 1995, to Sarah (née Marriott) and Dominic, a daughter, Serena Henrietta Olivia.

TAYLOR - On February 20th, to Jane (née Thomassen) and Peter, a daughter, Sophie Elizabeth, a sister for James.

DEATHS

ADAM - Margaret Marion, on 3rd March 1995, dearly loved wife of Arthur and wonderful mother of Roger and Gillian, grandmother of Hannah and Danielle. Sadly missed by friends. Service will be held Monday March 13th 2 pm at Garston Crematorium, Herts. Flowers may be sent to J.J. Burgess, Alfred House, The Common, Hatfield, Herts. AL10 0ND.

BIDDULPH - On Sunday 5th March 1995, in her 61st year, after a long and courageous fight against cancer, Barbara Ann, wife of Brian and very much loved mother of Karen, Colin and Gillian. Private family funeral at St Giles, Ellesfield, Retford, Monday 13th March. No flowers please, donations, if desired, to "Nottinghamshire McMillan Nurse Appeal", PO Box 23, Nottingham NG5 1PN. Memorial Service at Worksop College Chapel to be announced.

BROOKE-TAYLOR - On March 4th peacefully at Buxton, Rachel Frances aged 92, much loved wife of the late Edward Brooke-Taylor, mother of Martin, Carolyn and Tim, grandmother and great-grandmother. Private cremation. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at St Peter's Church, Fairfield, Buxton, on a date to be announced.

BUNTING - On March 7th, peacefully in Dymock, Glos., Paulette Lucienne. Funeral Service at St Dominic's Priory, Southampton Road, London NW5, on Tuesday March 14th at 12 noon, followed by interment at Highgate Cemetery, Swain's Lane, N6. Enquiries to Leverton & Sons, (0171-485-1969).

CARTER - Michael Henry Tindall, peacefully at his home in Tydd St Giles on March 7th 1995, in his 70th year. Beloved husband of Virginia Anne, loving father of Christopher, Lulu and Paula, much loved grandfather of Sophie, Harry and Jamie. Private family cremation, followed by Memorial Service at Tydd St Giles Parish Church at 3.30pm on Tuesday March 14th. Donations if desired to R.N.L.I. c/o W. Bailey & Son, 55 Lynn Road, Wisbech, Cambs. PE13 3DE.

DICKIE - David Oswald Dickie, M.B., Ch B., died quietly on 7th March 1995 in his 84th year. Deeply mourned by his family, friends, and patients for whom he was a beloved Physician and friend for 48 years. The Funeral Service and celebration of his life will be at 3 pm on Tuesday 14th March at All Saints Church, Shipdham, Norfolk and later private burial in Shipdham Cemetery. Letters welcomed. Simple flowers preferred. A remembrance book will be available at the Church. Enquiries to W.G. Littlejohn and Son, Bradenham, Thetford, Norfolk. tel: (01760) 440269.

EMERY - On March 6th 1995, Gordon Haig Emery C.B.E. aged 76 years. The dearly loved husband of Josephine, father of Joanne, Michelle and Louise, father-in-law of Bernie and grandfather of Georgia May. Forever in our hearts. Funeral Service at St Peter's Church, Prestbury, on Monday March 13th at 10am, followed by committal at Macclesfield Crematorium. Flowers or donations, if desired, to the N.S.P.C.C. Enquiries to J.W. Brocklehurst & Sons Ltd., tel: (01625) 829232.

GREENWOOD - Peter Humphry, FRS. Suddenly, but peacefully on March 3rd aged 67 years in London. Husband of Marjorie, father of Pamela, Jennifer, Nan and Pippa, and grandfather of Tom, Bryony, Alexander and Hugh. Ichthyologist at the Natural History Museum (London) and Rhodes University (Grahamstown, South Africa). Private cremation at 12.15 pm 14th March to be followed later by a celebration of his life on 21st April 1995 at 1 pm at the Linnean Society of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly (0171-434 4479). Flowers or donations to the Salvation Army or the Mission for Seamen. Enquiries to CRS Funeral Services, 68 Parsons Green Lane, London SW6 4HU.

JEDRZEJOWICZ FRANCIS - On March 8th. In hospital, Adam Jedrzejowicz Francis, beloved husband of Jean and loving father of Teresa, Anne and Elizabeth. Thanksgiving Service at the Carmelite Church, Kensington Church Street, on 10th March at 11am. Family flowers only.

JUANALS - Kit, on 6th March at Trinity Hospice, peacefully after a long illness, beloved wife of Richard, mother of Angela and grandmother of Charles, Jeremy and Kate. Funeral Service at Mortlake Crematorium on Tuesday 14th March at 12.30 pm.

MacKERRELL - Vivian, peacefully on 4th March at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, after heroically battling against a long and crippling illness, aged 60, brother of Jock and David. Funeral at Gloucestershire Crematorium, Coney Hill Road, Gloucester, at 2 pm Friday 17th March. All welcome.

MACRAE - George Brotherston, suddenly at home at Alphamstone, Essex on March 5th 1995, aged 65 years. Devoted son of the late Drs. Angus and Marjorie Macrae and brother of the late Duncan. Funeral Service at Alphamstone Parish Church on Wednesday March 15th at 2 pm, to be followed by burial in Fodderly Cemetery, near Dingwall, Ross-Shire, on Friday March 17th at 1 pm. No flowers by request. Donations, if desired, to Save the Children Fund c/o Brown Fenn & Parker, 37 North Street, Sudbury CO10 6RD.

MULHOLLAND - On March 7th, peacefully at home, James Mulholland O.B.E., beloved husband of Frances and much loved father of Elaine, Brian and Siobhan. Requiem at St Peter's Church, West Street, Shoreham-by-Sea, on Tuesday March 14th at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to The Friends of the Northbourne Medical Centre, Eastern Avenue, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex BN43 6PE.

MASON - James Cooksey O.B.E. passed away Monday 6th March 1995, aged 79. Sadly missed by children Tim, Chris, Penny, Nick, Lindy and Ian.

MUSSELL - Yvonne, on March 6th in the Macmillan Ward, Salisbury District Hospital, aged 58. Much loved mother of Fiona and Monique and wife of David. Funeral at All Saints Church, Middle Woodford, at 11.30am 14th March. Family flowers only but donations to Salisbury Hospice Care Trust via G.W. Burden Funeral Directors, 27 Church Street, Amesbury, Wilts.

NOBES - Sybil Kathleen, peacefully at home on March 6th in her 90th year. Dearly loved wife of the late Bertram. Private cremation on Monday, March 13th at 2.30 pm at Mortlake Crematorium. No flowers but donations, if desired, to The British Heart Foundation. Enquiries to J.H. Kenyon Ltd., (0171) 229-3810.

POTTER - Cedric Handcastle, March 4th, peacefully in his sleep aged 87, after supersitive nursing by the staff of the Heroes Nursing Home, Kidderminster. Much loved father of Christopher, Timothy and Susan, and grandfather of Charlotte, Luke, Marcus, Sarah, Sophie, Kate, Hannah, Simon and Belinda. Former headmaster of March Grammar School and the Neale-Wade School, March. Private funeral. No flowers, donations to the C.H. Potter Memorial Prize c/o Neale-Wade School, March, Cambs. Memorial Service Tuesday 14th March, 3.30pm, St Wendreda's Church, March, Cambs.

ROWELL - Lynette Kathleen on Tuesday 7th March, peacefully after a long illness borne with great fortitude, formerly Principal of The Gateway (Montessori) School, Great Missenden. A very dearly loved sister. Cremation at Tunbridge Wells on Tuesday 14th March at 12.30 pm. No flowers. Letters and donations, if liked, to R.N.L.B. c/o Ord-Hume Funeral Services, 53A Quarry Hill Road, Tonbridge, Kent, tel: (01732) 368746.

SMITH - On March 7th 1995, peacefully at his daughter's home in Bordon, Hants., Peter Smith F.R.C.S., aged 78 years, of Eastbourne. Much loved father and grandfather. Service of Thanksgiving at St Michael's and All Angels Church, Willingdon Road, Eastbourne, on Monday March 13th at 12 noon. No flowers. Donations for Sussex Cancer Treatment Fund c/o Thorne-Leggett, Petersfield Road, Whitehill, Bordon, GU35 9AR. tel: (01420) 488896.

SOBEY - John (Jack) Ernest Heathcote, son of Canon A.E. Sorby of Darfield, Yorkshire, gently and swiftly on March 4th at home. Beloved widower of Sheila Sorby and devoted father of Nicholas. No flowers by request but donations, if desired, to The Parkinson Disease Society, 22 Upper Woburn Place, London. Funeral Service 2 pm Tuesday March 14th in All Saints Church, Crondall, followed by a private cremation.

STEVENSON - Suddenly on 5th March, Michael, formerly of St Stephens College, Delhi. Sadly missed by Myra (mother), Mary, Kenny, Graham, Esther, nephews, nieces and many, many friends. Funeral on Monday, 13th March at 11am, Crematorium. Enquiries to Chelsea Funeral Directors, 260B Fulham Road, SW10 (0171) 352-0008.

STOCK - On March 7th 1995, Brian Hulbert (Commander, R.N. Retired), dearly loved husband of Sheila and father of Chris, Anthony, Peter, Graham and Jane (Videtta). Memorial Service at St Leonard's Church, Beeley, Worcs., at 2.30 pm on Monday 13th March, preceded by private cremation. Donations in lieu of flowers to RNLI or Imperial Cancer Research Fund may be sent to A. Dyer & Sons, 23 Alcester Road, Studley, Warks., B80 7AG.

TAYLOR - On March 8th, Joan Winifred, formerly of Ashtead, Surrey. Much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral Service at Salisbury Crematorium on Tuesday 14th March 1995 at 1 pm. No flowers but donations if desired to Alzheimers Disease Society c/o I.N. Newman Ltd., Griffin House, 55 Winchester Street, Salisbury, Wilts. SP1 1HL.

WALDRON - On March 6th in hospital, Myrtle aged 77 years, formerly of Pimlico, SW1. Funeral Service at Westminster Cathedral on Monday March 20th at 2 pm followed by cremation at Putney Vale Crematorium at 3.30 pm. Enquiries to J.H. Kenyon, 74 Rochester Row, SW1. tel: (0171) 834-4624.

WHITEHEAD - On 6th March 1995, Richard Leslie St.Dalmas aged 76. Funeral Service at St Peter's Church, Wolvercote, Oxford, at 1 pm on Friday 10th March, followed by private interment. Flowers to Reeves & Pain, 288 Abingdon Road, Oxford.

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OBITUARIES

JOHN OWEN

John Simpson Owen, OBE, colonial administrator and conservationist, died on February 23 aged 82. He was born on December 31, 1912.



BORN within sight of the spectacular Ruwenzori mountain range in western Uganda, John Owen served as a political officer in Sudan and then played a considerable part in developing the national parks of Eastern and Central Africa and encouraging ecological conservation.

His father was a missionary in Kenya and the whole family grew to love the people and highlands of East Africa. Later, Archdeacon Owen became known as the archdemon because he was often ready to challenge settler interests; he was a friend, too, of the young Jomo Kenyatta.

The Owens were not rich. So it was at Christ's Hospital that John received his education, then a scholarship to Oxford where he studied chemistry and anthropology as well as being captain of the Brasenose rugby XV.

With his tough intelligence and African background Owen was an obvious candidate for the Sudan Political Service, which he joined in 1936. He always retained two gifts from his early years: a deep love for African people and for all living creatures, and from his "demonic" parentage he inherited a bold and challenging humanity, a readiness to think and act radically for others.

For four years Owen served in the Darfur region of western Sudan, on the slopes of the Jebel Marra massif. His hospitality there could be salted with mischief. His tame cheetah was beautiful and gentle: his tame baby crocodile was neither — as one of his guests, in 1940, had cause to remember.

After Darfur he moved eastwards to the river and the towns as Assistant District Commissioner at Omdurman. In 1946 he married Patricia Burns, an education officer who shared his love of the wild. Soon he was moved to the far south of Sudan, as District Commission at Torit. There he began to come into his own as a conservationist. He started a small national park, Nimule. Zoologists would call and museums in New York, Washington, Copenhagen and elsewhere began to receive specimens — previously unknown small mammals, bats or snakes.

Sudanese independence was approaching. It was clear that the country needed much help with the transition. With his experience of the west and south, Owen could see other problems looming. By 1955 the Anglo-Egyptian condominium was at an end and the majority of British officials were pensioned off.

The fact that they were treated generously by the British Government had something to do with a visit to London by Owen and a colleague and a long, prickly argument they had with Anthony Eden, then Foreign Secretary. They were shown the door but they won the argument: ex-Sudan officials would be treated like others from former British dependencies. There followed for Owen four years in an administrative job in a British multinational which brought on a deep depression.

Owen's great work began when he resigned and went back to Africa to lay the foundations of Tanzania's game reservations, centred on Serengeti, working there as Director of National Parks from 1960 to 1970. His initial appointment was not much more than that of senior game warden. Later, Owen used to quote Goethe's prophetic words: "Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it/Boldness has genius, power and magic in it."

At first his task was to make friends and gain trust from Tanzanian officials, politicians and schoolchildren. He had the backing of President Julius Nyerere and soon he was leading a multinational team of game wardens, scientists and Tanzanian officials. Many of them learnt to fly as light planes replaced Land Rovers for staff working over huge distances. He raised over £3 million, much of it in America, for road building, airstrips and for the Serengeti Research Institute.

His young, talented research community were often very individualistic and Owen helped them to focus their many disparate enthusiasms on unifying themes: the grasslands and forests with their thin soils, together with huge herds of eland, elephants and innumerable smaller creatures — "this incredible ecosystem" all of it "held together through mechanisms of self-regulation", as Hugh Lamprey put it.

By the 1970s world opinion was beginning to wake up to what was happening in the great forests and savannas of tropical lands. Many eminent ecologists flew in and supported the Serengeti initiatives. Far-sighted African politicians, too, were beginning to understand the importance of a balanced approach to the environment.

In 1973 Owen took his ecological expertise to the Woodrow Wilson International Centre for Scholars in Washington.

In his retirement, despite periods of depression, there remained with him and his family a glow of pride and happiness at having achieved so much at a time when the shadows were lengthening in Africa. The Owens' Regency home in Tunbridge Wells was full of records, objects and people with African echoes. The habit, too, of challenging ill-considered "development" stayed with him.

There were one-man campaigns which were sometimes conducted through a not-quite-legal wall newspaper. Yet a lovely wood was saved, an eyesore was not built and, when Owen was fined for persisting with his wall newspaper, hundreds of local people paid the fine.

The last windmill at which he chose to tilt was the Channel Tunnel: his joust with Sir Alastair Morton about the inadequacy of safety measures went on for several years. Owen did not mind being unhorsed but he had faith that small people and great truths would prevail.

John Owen died from throat cancer at his home and with his family. He is survived by his wife and three daughters.

PAUL-EMILE VICTOR

Paul-Emile Victor, polar explorer, died in Bora-Bora, Polynesia, on March 7 aged 87. He was born in Geneva on June 27, 1907.



OVER four decades Paul-Emile Victor led a record 66 scientific expeditions to the Arctic, Antarctic, Greenland and Lapland, becoming one of the leading authorities on the polar regions. No mere seeker after records of endurance, he preferred to live among the Inuit (the indigenous peoples of the North American Arctic and Greenland), learning their language and studying them, rather than racing to the North Pole — which he only finally reached by Dakota aircraft at the age of 80.

He first achieved fame in 1936 with a long crossing of Greenland by dog-drawn sled and on foot, passing the winter of that year on the northern coast of eastern Greenland. He went on to play a major role in generating international interest in the polar regions.

In 1947 he founded Expéditions Polaires Françaises (EPF) to oversee French scientific missions in the polar regions. With other international scientific groups, the EPF analysed the relationship between oceans and the atmosphere, studied bird life and established polar study camps.

Paul-Emile Victor studied engineering and ethnology in French schools and then obtained a degree from the Institute of Ethnology in Paris. An early influence on him was the noted polar explorer, Commandant Jean Charcot, the doctor son of an eminent 19th-century neurologist who counted Sigmund Freud among his pupils.

Charcot took Victor with him on expeditions to Greenland aboard his ship the *Pourquoi Pas*. After Charcot's loss at sea in 1936, Victor continued making expeditions alone, most notably to Lapland. He wrote his first book before the Second World War which saw him first as deputy French naval attaché in Scandinavia and then as polar rescue adviser to United States forces specialising in the frozen terrain between North America and Siberia.

After the war Victor made the rounds of ministries and scientific bodies to raise interest in polar exploration, funds to finance it and to bring together the expertise of specialists from various scientific fields.

He went on to lead several expeditions to the South Pole and became an expert on the protection of the Antarctic as well as an authority on the continent's mineral resources. In his own country he became famous for hoisting the tricolour in France's own segment of the Antarctic, known as Terre-Adélie — to such a degree that French expeditions to the Antarctic were known, not by some grandiose name, but simply as "Missions Paul-Emile Victor". He once estimated that he had covered 300,000 miles across snow and ice during his lifetime.

Respected as an ethnologist, he wrote numerous scientific papers in addition to many books for the general public. His most famous was *La Grande Faim* (published in France in 1953 and in the UK two years later). Written after he had lived for a number of years with the Inuit, it told the story of the terrible deprivations suffered by the Inuit during the grim winter they experienced in 1882-83.

Victor's explorations earned him the gold medal of the Royal Geographical Society in 1953. In 1956 he was influential in the creation of the permanent French scientific base, Dumont-d'Urville. Later he advised the French Government before the international conferences which led to the demilitarised and denuclearised status of Antarctica, with 20 nations with stakes there agreeing to limit their presence to scientific bases.

In 1977 Victor decided on a radical Gauguin-like change of lifestyle, abandoning his home in Paris for life with his second wife, Colette, on Motu-Tane, a tiny atoll off Bora-Bora in French Polynesia. He explained that it was the fulfilment of another childhood dream. He raised chickens and vegetables on his thinly populated outcrop which was not much bigger than the Place de la Concorde, and was visited there by members of his family, scientists and eminent friends like Jacques Cousteau. He continued to write about polar life — his last book, *Planète Antarctique* was published in 1991 — and occasionally rejoined the French polar expeditionary ship based in Tasmania.

He was not forgotten in France and President Mitterrand visited him at his home on Motu Tane to award him the Légion d'Honneur.

Paul-Emile Victor is survived by his second wife and his four children, three from his first marriage, which ended in divorce.

GEOFFREY ADAMS

Geoffrey Adams, OBE, palaeontologist, died on February 6 aged 68. He was born in Nottingham on May 29, 1926.



GEOFFREY ADAMS was the former Deputy Keeper of Palaeontology at the Natural History Museum, London. He was a notable international authority on larger foraminifera — a key group of fossils much used by geologists, especially in the oil industry, for dating rocks deposited in shallow water over the last 70 million years.

After wartime service in the Royal Air Force, Charles Geoffrey Adams obtained a first-class degree in Geology at Queen's University, Belfast, in 1952, then a doctorate from Nottingham University.

After a short period as assistant lecturer in geology at King's College London, he joined the Natural History Museum in 1956 to take charge of fossil protozoa. At the time the museum was receiving numerous inquiries from overseas geological surveys relating to the dating of tertiary limestones from various parts of the Indo-Pacific region, and he turned his attention to these. During the next three decades he was to travel extensively in that region on fieldwork and produced many notable papers and internal reports.

He was appointed Deputy Keeper of Palaeontology in 1968 and for most of the remainder of his career he combined vigorous research with an ever-increasing administrative workload. He was primarily responsible for the large palaeontology wing of the museum, completed in 1975.

Shortly before he retired in 1988 he was appointed OBE in recognition of his major contributions to science, substantial service to the museum and for his geological advisory work. The award which gave him the most pleasure, however, he received shortly before his death when he travelled to North America to receive the 1994 Joseph A. Cushman Award for excellence in foraminiferal research. This certainly involved international recognition by his peers: he was only the second Briton to receive it.

Adams was an active member of several geological societies and a Fellow of the Geological Society of London. Over the years, he gave much of his spare time to graduate teaching, though he was never particularly happy as a public lecturer. He spent considerable time refereeing papers for scientific journals in the belief that thoughtful criticism and commentaries not only improved papers but helped younger authors to develop a better scientific style. By nature he was a quiet, unassuming person who never deliberately drew attention to himself or his work.

He is survived by his wife Kathleen and a daughter and son.

ERIC DADSON

Eric Dadson, executive of the gas industry and early wartime member of the Special Operations Executive, died in Newport, Isle of Wight, on February 20 aged 91. He was born on May 30, 1903.



WHEN the Germans invaded Belgium in May 1940, Eric Dadson, who was then manager of the Antwerp gas works, managed to escape to England. He immediately joined the then infant Special Operations Executive, the newly formed wartime sabotage and subversion service under the wing of Hugh Dalton, the Minister for Economic Warfare.

Dadson became the first head of T section, which was supposed to send agents into Belgium and Luxembourg. He had to start from scratch. He struggled for ten months against a host of difficulties; foremost among them the reluctance of the Free Belgians in London to help him to find French or Flemish-speaking recruits.

The general anxiety not to precipitate Nazi reprisals made things no better: protracted rivalries between the intelligence and security staffs of the Belgian Government-in-exile in London made them worse.

Nevertheless he found several capable volunteers, whom he dispatched direct to Belgium by parachute. Before any of them could return to report, he had fallen out with SOE's security authorities, and had to resign in preference to being dismissed.

He spent the rest of the Second World War on less interesting and less secret work for an electricity firm, but returned to Belgium as soon as the war was over.

Although his career was mainly spent on the Continent, Eric Fulton Dadson was thoroughly English. He was born in Hampstead and was educated at Christ's Hospital — going from there straight into the gas industry. After the war he picked up the threads on his prewar business life, becoming successively general manager, chairman and president of the Imperial Continental Gas Association, eventually bought out by Calor Gas.

His services to Belgium in both peace and war were recognised by his being appointed an officer of the Order of Leopold and a commander of the Order of the Crown of Belgium.

He never married.

ROBERT PATERSON

Robert Paterson, OBE, MC, former director of Merseyside Chamber of Commerce and Industry, died on February 8 aged 76. He was born on May 16, 1918.



ROBERT PATERSON steered Merseyside Chamber of Commerce through the turbulent 1970s, a decade which not merely saw boom nearly turn to bust after the 1973 Yom Kippur War and the Arab oil embargo, but ended dismally with the so-called "winter of discontent". He was, however, well used to adversity.

In June-July 1944 he had won a highly deserved Military Cross while leading two Border Regiment platoons on Chindit operations near the Indo-Burmese frontier. Together they drove the Japanese out of three villages in the area around Ukhrul, killing 42 of them and capturing 15 more and 14 mules. Paterson lost only one man dead and two more injured on his own side. The citation for his MC said that throughout the action he had showed complete disregard for his own safety.

Although only 27, Paterson was a seasoned veteran in 1945 after being on active service throughout the war. As a subaltern with the regiment's 4th Battalion he had been evacuated with the rest of the British Expeditionary Force in France in June 1940, then had fought in Syria and the Western Desert before being posted to 23 Brigade with the Chindits.

He was born Robert Lancelot Paterson at Barrow-in-Furness, the son of an engineer, but had been largely brought up on the west Wales coast, by an aunt and uncle living in Aberystwyth. From there he was sent as a boarder to Monmouth School, returning to Aberystwyth to read classics at the University College of Wales there.

He joined the Officers Training Corps and while still a student was commissioned into the supplementary reserve of the Border Regiment — a choice influenced by his mother's family background in the Lake District. At that stage he wanted to join the Regular Army.

He had married in 1940, however, and by 1946, at which time he was serving as assistant chief instructor at an infantry officer cadet training unit, he had had enough of army life and was happy to be demobilised.

He then joined the Colonial Service and was posted to Tanganyika. A district officer from 1947 until 1960, he was then made a principal assistant secretary at the Ministry of Home Affairs, only to find his career terminated shortly afterwards when the country became independent as Tanzania.

It was in 1963, shortly after returning to this country, that Robert Paterson joined the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce as deputy secretary. He was made director in 1967 and was closely involved in expanding the chamber to cover the Merseyside region in 1971 — although it has now reverted to its old title.

In 1970 Paterson also became a part-time adjudicator on immigration appeals for the Home Office. In addition, he was at one time or another a member of the National Council of Association of British Chambers of Commerce, president of the British Chambers of Commerce Executives, a governor of Liverpool College of Commerce and a member of Liverpool University appointments board.

Robert Paterson is survived by his wife Orpha, whom he met when she was a fellow undergraduate at Aberystwyth, and by three sons.

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THE VATICAN AND THE LATE QUEEN VICTORIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)
ROME, MARCH 4.

The official organ of the Society of Jesus, *La Civiltà Cattolica*, devotes a long and learned article to the question recently discussed in the columns of *The Times* concerning the possibility of celebrating Requiem Masses for non-Catholics and especially for the late Queen Victoria ... It constitutes an exhaustive reply to most of the letters published in *The Times* and indirectly deals with the view presented by "Spectator" in *The Times* of February 12. "We are touched," wrote "Spectator," "at hearing that African chiefs have ordered tom-toms to be beaten or cattle sacrificed for the repose of the soul of the Great White Queen. What pleases the subjects of the Queen is the expression of devotion by men of all races and religions. The Catholic Church, through Cardinal Vaughan, has struck a discordant note."

The attitude of the Roman Church is that "men of all races and religions" strike "discordant notes" in remaining without her pale. The source of all the evil is, according to the *Civiltà Cattolica*, "that baldly-interpreted liberty, so contrary to religious virtue, which they call freedom of conscience and which is, in reality, religious licence ... To this is due the absurd theory that all religions are worthy of respect as juridical equals, as though the rights of truth and error were, or could be, the same." The pretence of some Catholics that the Church should mitigate her ancient severity towards dissidents is attributable to the same pernicious attitude ...

Ignorance of these truths, adds the *Civiltà*, can alone explain the arrogant conduct of certain writers who have censured Cardinal Vaughan and other English Bishops for not consenting to celebrate a solemn Requiem Mass and other Catholic rites in honour of the memory and in suffrage of the soul of the Protestant Queen Victoria of England.

Continuing, the Jesuit organ waxes yet more categorical. Requiem Masses, it says, are not simply civil and external honours ascribed to the defunct by survivors, but are religious acts and constitute the prayer which the Catholic Church offers that its children may be received into the eternal peace of the just.

Therefore, to claim a right to this solemn prayer for whomsoever died separate from the community of the faithful, or even only to pretend that, for reasons of human policy or ill-comprehended patriotism, Catholics should be allowed the privilege of honouring with Catholic obsequies the King or Queen who voluntarily and publicly lived and died Protestant, would be a profanation, a non-sense (*controsenso*), a placing upon the lips of the Church words and formulae which in such case would be lying and fraudulent.

Since, adds the *Civiltà Cattolica*, Protestants deny the Real Presence and all those dogmas which form the basis of Catholic Liturgy, they cannot reasonably be presumed ever to have desired the celebration in suffrage of their soul of that Sacrifice (the Mass) which they publicly and constantly stigmatise as a blasphemous fiction and a pernicious imposture. As to the case of the late Queen Victoria, she is known to have been the head of the Protestant Anglican Church and to have professed and to have been in duty bound to maintain its articles of religion. Now, in the 31st of these articles it may be read that "the Sacrifices of Masses, in the which it was commonly said that the priest did offer Christ for the quick and the dead, to have remission of pain or guilt, were blasphemous fables and dangerous deceits" ...

ON THIS DAY

March 9 1901

The article concludes by reporting that when the Holy See was asked about the possibility of holding a simple memorial service for the Queen in Catholic churches, the answer was
Quoad servitium divinum, negative.

Crestfallen Forte loses two of its top executives

THE future of Forte's Crest Hotel chain, its flagship four-star brand for business travellers acquired from Bass in 1990 for £300 million, is under review after the departure of the top two executives.

The managing director, Hermann Jenny, who joined just under two years ago from Copthorne Hotels, and his deputy, Grant Hearn, have both resigned, and responsibility for running the chain has been distributed to other senior executives. The number of Crest Hotels in the United Kingdom has fallen from 43 in 1990 to 27.

Forte is believed to be considering using its newly acquired Meridien chain as the main international vehicle for expanding its hotels for business travellers, although the company says that it has no plans to scrap the Crest brand.

Hearn, meanwhile, is to join the Whitbread chain of 30 Country Club hotels, which includes the recently acquired five-star Hanbury Manor, near Ware in Hertfordshire.

Hush money

TRAVELLERS to Bradford who are looking for a bargain and are not disturbed by a little building noise can get discounts of up to 75 per cent off the room rates at the Victoria Hotel while it is being refurbished. The Victoria was recently bought by Jonathan Wix, owner of the award-winning Leeds hotel, "42, The Calls", who has plans to establish a similar reputation in Bradford.

Newly modernised rooms will cost £49.50 a night instead of £79 until the end of May. Details: 01274 728706.

Brown's version

BROWN'S Hotel in Mayfair — which traces its origins back to 1666, although the present property started operating as an hotel in 1837 — claims to be London's oldest surviving hotel. It is now completing a £12.5 million refurbishment. To celebrate, it has a special weekend rate until the end of April of £89 a person a night, including VAT and breakfast. Details: 0171-493 6020.

Also celebrating is the Four Seasons Hotel in Park Lane, which opened 25 years ago last month as The Inn On The Park. Its special weekend package, available all year, offers a double room, champagne on arrival, breakfast and newspapers, free parking and afternoon tea. Cost is £250 a room a night, including VAT and service, instead of the normal double room rate of £255 plus VAT. Details: 0171 499 0888.

Cold comforts

THE world's northernmost hotel — or so it claims — has just reopened at Spitsbergen, Norway. The Svalbard Polar Hotel, at Longyearbyen, was originally built for the Winter Olympic Games at Lillehammer last year, but



has been dismantled and rebuilt at Spitsbergen.

With 67 rooms, restaurant, and bar, the hotel is a useful base for Arctic touring. Explore Worldwide is offering a six-day trip, half-board and flights, departing April 5. Details: 01252 319448.

Weekend deal

COPTHORNE Hotels has a new Weekends Away programme for its UK and continental hotels, including its new hotel at Stuttgart, Germany.

Packages are based on two nights' accommodation for two people with breakfast, and including tickets to an local attraction, such as the Granada TV studios in Manchester or the zoo in Hanover. Prices for Copthorne's UK hotels are £129 a couple, apart from the Tara in London, which is £149. The rate at The Copthorne in Hanover is DM325 (£141) a couple. Details: 0800 414 741.

French leave

RESIDENCES Chez Nous is offering a selection of budget self-catering studios and apartments in central Paris for a spring break.

Prices range from £38 a person a night for a studio in the Latin Quarter, to a two-room apartment in the Boulevard Haussman for £50 a person a night with four sharing. Details: 01484 680865.

Child's play

THE luxurious 98-room Bath Spa Hotel in Bath, Somerset, has solved the problem of what to do with the children on weekends away by opening a purpose-built nursery, with a fully trained nurse in attendance.

The Kemble Nursery caters for children aged two to nine, and is located in a former lodge. Weekend rates start at £74 a person a night for bed and breakfast. Details: 0345 404040.

Deadly earnest

MURDER weekends are as popular as ever. Coming up is a medieval murder mystery weekend on March 18 at Rosslea Hall Hotel, a country house hotel in Glasgow.

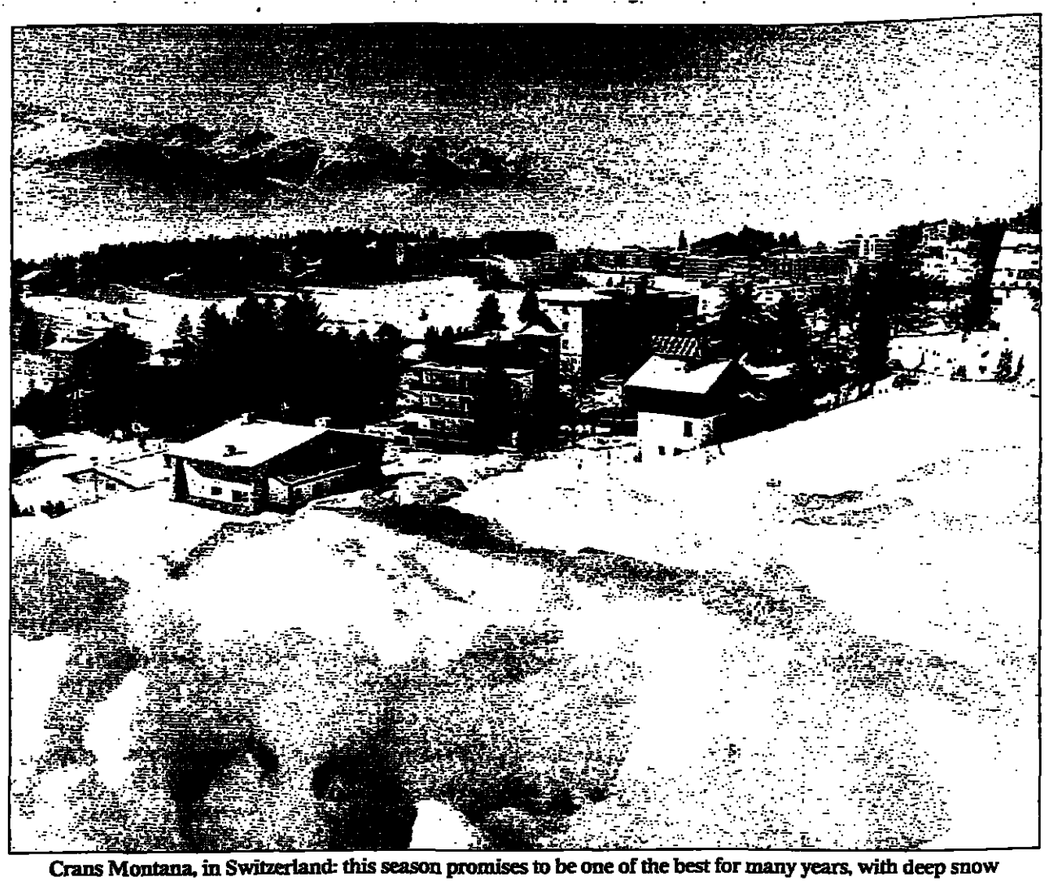
The action takes place at a 16th-century wedding, and costs £48 a person including accommodation. Details: 01436 820684.

At the Solihull Moat House on March 25, a murder mystery will be played out at a price of £75 a person. Details: 0121 711 4700.

Winning stake

MARRIOTT finally appears to have realised its ambition to capture a de luxe hotel chain (it failed to get either Ciga or Meridien), with a move earlier this week to take a 49 per cent stake in the 31-strong Ritz-Carlton group with a view to an eventual complete takeover.

DAVID CHURCHILL



Crans Montana, in Switzerland: this season promises to be one of the best for many years, with deep snow

Easter ski parade

Heavy snow on the slopes extends the season, says Graham Duffill

Heavy snowfalls in the Alps will ensure that the ski season lasts beyond Easter, and tour operators are expecting a rush of late bookings for the spring.

Late March and April can be the most rewarding times to go skiing with long, sunny days and no queues, apart from Easter week (April 9-18). The period is especially favoured by families with young children because of warmer temperatures.

This season is likely to be one of the best for many years, with resorts deep in snow that would, if the lifts remained open, guarantee skiing into May. Temperatures in the Alps are low for this time of the year, preserving the snow.

Obertauern, in Austria, yesterday reported 150cm of snow in the village, 230cm on the upper slopes and a temperature of -4C. In Courchevel, France, there is 213cm on the village and 375cm on the upper slopes, and in Crans Montana, Switzerland, 220cm in the village and 4m on the upper slopes.

Annie Constantinou, of the travel company Inghams, said: "Since the beginning of January, when the heavy snowfalls began, our bookings have been rising week on week against last year. In the week ending March 3, we were 49 per cent up on the same week last season and we expect this trend to continue."

Booking a last-minute ski holiday in late season is traditionally the way to get the cheapest holidays, as tour operators begin to discount heavily on brochure prices to fill accommodation for which they have already paid.

Heavy discounting is unlikely this year. Inghams believes that tour operators are unlikely to offer more than £50 off brochure prices.

Andy Perrin, the marketing director of Crystal Holidays, said: "My advice to people who have decided they want to go skiing before the end of the season would be to book for the weeks beginning March 18 or 25.

"There is still availability and there will be some discounting — for instance flight and B&B accommodation in Kitzbühel, Mayrhofen or Söll at £139, or half-board for £209.

"Austria offers the best bargains because it is seen as a country with low resorts, while in the late season skiers book mainly in the high resorts in France. Austria has had the best snow for ten years and the prices are excellent."

Many operators will end their ski business immediately after Easter week, as planes are switched to summer business. However, specialist ski operators such as Crystal will continue until April 22.

The Austrian National Tourist Office has graded its resorts into those likely to have good skiing into Easter and those that will have good skiing into May. It lists Obergurgl, Ischgl, St Anton, Lech and Obertauern among those that should have skiing into early May.

For more information, telephone the tourist office on 0171-629 0461, Crystal Holidays 0181-399 5144, or Inghams 0181-780 4444.

● Martin Bell, Britain's downhill racer, will hold a ski clinic with Bill Johnson, the American Olympic Gold medallist, in Crested Butte, Colorado, from April 2 to 7. The course, for skiers of any standard, is aimed at building confidence, as well as giving technical advice.

Will it be cheaper in Spain?

More pesetas for your pound

BRITISH visitors to Spain and Portugal are unlikely to have more cash to spend, despite the devaluation of the peseta and the escudo.

Technically, the exchange rates of both currencies have simply been "realigned" within the EMS.

In London yesterday the peseta was selling at about 202 to the pound, against just under 199 at the end of last week. There was also little movement against the German mark, with the peseta trading at about 90.86, compared with 88.5 on Friday.

Although the drop in value will help marginally to increase Spain's already booming tourism industry, it could also lead, in the longer term, to higher inflation and higher prices.

Tour operators will not be changing the quoted brochure price of their packages to Spain because they have already been published, and hoteliers have been paid at the old rate. At the same time prices, especially in the offshore islands, have risen by about 10 per cent anyway, partly because of the internal inflation and partly because of the rush to refurbish older hotels.

IF THE peseta falls further, or remains low, next year's prices could be affected. Since most people take about £100 each as spending money on a package holiday, the slide in the peseta would give them less than £2 more to spend throughout their stay.

The number of British visitors to Spain increased by 22 per cent last year, to reach 9.1 million — slightly fewer than German tourists, whose numbers rose by 11 per cent to 9.67 million. The French make up by far the biggest number of Spain's tourists, at 13.69 million, with Portugal second, at 10.24 million.

Spain attracted 51 million visitors last year, of whom 43 million were tourists seeking the sun. As each year passes, Spain, which has greatly improved its infrastructure, is consolidating its position as Europe's playground.

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Sun, sand — and an empty promise



The Travel Business

HARVEY ELLIOTT

A group of some 20 MPs met in a wood-panelled room overlooking the Thames on Tuesday morning to chew over the implications of the Unfair Terms in Consumer Contracts Regulations 1994.

It was hardly the kind of subject to need the attention of the Serjeant at Arms to keep the throng from beating down the door of Committee Room 12 in excitement. Nor were all the high-minded declamations in which MPs indulge on such occasions going to have any bearing on the passage of the measure into law. But this little regulation — one of thousands emanating from Brussels that slip almost unnoticed into our lives — will have a significant bearing on the way in which consumer law, especially where it concerns travel, is conducted in Britain.

Until now, anyone who has felt unfairly treated has been obliged to take an offending company or supplier to court, often at great cost, as an individual party to a contract. For example, if someone reads the small print on his booking form closely and objects to a clause about the possible cancellation fees, the only redress would be to take that tour operator to court individually and to try to seek a ruling in his favour. Even if he were to win, the company could go on publishing documents with unfairnesses built into them.

Once this new regulation becomes law on July 1, however, it will be open to anyone to ask the Office of Fair Trading to take up the case on their behalf and either to persuade the company voluntarily to remove the offending clause or to obtain an injunction removing the words from all future publications.

This means that anybody could trawl travel-agency shelves, pick over the holiday brochures and find some clause that might be construed as "unfair", and try to persuade the OFT to take up, and pay for, the case and to obtain an injunction preventing the clause from being repeated. It would not matter whether or not the complainant was involved.

The National Consumer Council, the Consumers' Association and Nigel Griffiths, Labour's consumer spokesman, all believe that the new law does not go far enough. The OFT is hardly renowned for taking out prosecutions, they say, and other bodies, including, of course, the NCC and the CA, should be able to bring the action. They are confident that within a few weeks they will have won the right to seek a judicial review claiming that the right to seek injunctions preventing unfair actions should not be confined to the OFT.

The Government is not worried. The Department of Trade and Industry, which first published the regulations in December, has not spelt out the implications of the new rules to the trade and says it may not even do so until after they become law.

The travel trade has taken a somewhat condescending view of the impending legislation. The Association of British Travel Agents, for example, is convinced that the new rules will simply harmonise laws throughout the European Union and bring the rest of Europe into line with what has been law in Britain for years. "We already have more than enough laws to ensure we behave fairly," they say.

Hundreds of British lawyers who have set up shop in Brussels to try to pick through the European legislative thickets do not see the situation so simply — nor do those who specialise in travel in this country. They want to persuade travel companies to read their terms and conditions a little more closely before the new law comes into being.

Nick Benson, who specialises in travel legislation for the London solicitors Rowe & Maw, says: "I think it is rather more important and significant than it has been given credit for."

Not only will tour operators' brochures be open to increased scrutiny for hidden unfairness, but the conditions of carriage printed on airline tickets may also be subjected to OFT action.

The drive is on to bring Britain fully into line with our partners in Europe, especially in travel and tourism, which play such an important role in the European economies. Perhaps, therefore, we can look forward to the harmonisation of VAT at the average European rate of less than 10 per cent on hotels, restaurants and tourist activities.

On the other hand, perhaps not. That, doubtless, will go into the tray marked "Too Difficult".

Silver service for the golden generation

Travel firms ignore the older customer at their peril, says **Harvey Elliott**

A hard-hitting report into the growing importance of the "grey market" has shattered the travel industry's traditional view of older clients and is forcing tour operators to take people over the age of 55 more seriously than ever before.

The report, by London-based Market Assessment Publications (Maps), says that within five years there will be more than 22.5 million "greys" in Britain, about 37 per cent of the population.

While the population as a whole will have risen by 15 per cent between 1961 and 2021, the number of older people will have gone up by 40 per cent in the same period. Most will have retired — on average, at the age of 55 — and they will be demanding the highest-quality holiday for their available disposable income.

The report destroys the long-held belief that holiday marketing should be targeted at youth. It paints a picture of a new generation of older, wiser, wealthier and more demanding clients that the travel industry must now look at if their demands are to be satisfied.

The report says: "People who are reaching the age of 55 now were born in 1940, which means that they have spent the formative part of their lives in the consumer boom that has characterised UK society since the Second World War. This generation is unlikely to stick to stereotypical roles — it tends to be marketing and advertising literate and behaviourally willing to experiment in its consumption patterns.

"The 'fiftysomethings' have a special characteristic which marketeers ignore at their peril — they are used to being first.

"They were the first generation to be treated as consumers by the sweeping changes in mass marketing in the 1960s and 1970s. They were the first to challenge authority in the 1960s. They were also the first to challenge gender stereotypes as women attained control over their bodies and gained economic independence.

"They were the first to be both physically and socially mobile — through education, economic growth and mass overseas travel. They were the first generation to challenge 'ageing' seriously.

"This generation of New Old are cash, time and experience-rich, but they are not easy pickings. They are cynical about marketing and can spot a promotional ploy a mile off."

The Maps report does not pull punches. It says that, after the age of 74, the "fourth age" begins. This is "characterised by growing ill-health and an increased lack of mobility".

But "those who ignore those aged over 55 in the marketing of their products and services will be ignoring an increasingly wealthier part of our society, with time and money to spend".



Older customers, like these Cosmos Golden Years travellers, demand quality service on holiday

Two out of five people over the age of 55 will be healthier and wealthier than their parents were, will be willing to experiment with activities, lifestyle and consumption and are classified as "ABC1s" — the highest marketing category. But to sell holidays to them simply on the basis of their age could lead them to feel patronised or even insulted, says Maps.

About 22 per cent of people aged between 55 and 74 — known in marketing terms as Third Agers — spend money on holidays in Britain and another 18 per cent spend money abroad. Cruise holidays are particularly popular with the over-45s and more than half the winter sun holiday market is snapped up by them.

One of the main reasons for the available cash to spend on holidays is that 51 per cent of over-55s have now paid off their mortgage. Only 15 per cent are still paying a mortgage and 32 per cent rent their homes.

Because many older people in the UK have higher disposable incomes, they take more holidays and offer "excellent potential business in otherwise quieter times as they have less commitment to a workplace or are concerned with children's school holiday times," says the report.

"Greys are an ideal target market for off-peak times, when they can often be offered extremely competitively priced deals."

Already many travel companies — notably Saga, Cosmos, with its Golden Years brochure, and Thomson, through its Young at Heart packages — are taking the grey market seriously. But the report is certain to trigger an even bigger blitz on what is being recognised as the most important sector of the leisure market.

Destinations for political tourists

Gill Williams suggests a few new options in Asia for gung-ho travellers

North Korea is to follow Vietnam and Burma in opening its doors to foreigners, just eight months after the death of Kim Il Sung, its Stalinist leader. Scanmeridian has two 12-day tours via Bangkok to Pyongyang arranged for April 26 and May 1 at a cost of £1,995 a person inclusive. Ian Woolgar, the managing director, says he hopes to arrange other tours for the summer.

But British travel representative Neil Taylor, of Regent Holidays, says that the country is still "security obsessed" and advises only the most intrepid tourists to visit. "They will not even give out train or bus timetables. North Korea is a destination for the traveller seeking a political experience," he says.

> 'Visitors will be pleasantly surprised by the food in North Korea'

Regent Holidays has long specialised in travel to socialist countries with closed borders, and pioneered trips into Albania, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

The company is taking bookings on behalf of British-run Koryo Tours in Peking, which is selling seven-day holidays to attend the Pyongyang International Sports and Culture Festival for Peace in the North Korean capital at the end of April.

Regent's main concern is the possibility of disruption and delays should there be hiccups in relations between North Korea and the West. Transport options to the country are limited: by train or thrice weekly flights from China, or by rail from Russia. Aeroflot has pulled out of North Korea.

However, Nick Bonner, of Koryo Tours, says Western visitors will be pleasantly surprised by the quality of food in North Korea — better than the fare associated with most hardline socialist countries. He says visitors can stay not only in good hotels and guesthouses but are also welcome in private homes.

Such has been the easing of relations with the United States that North American companies are already investing in North Korea's first free-trade zone.

Transport difficulties are still holding up the development of tourism to Burma, despite the country having decided to admit foreign visitors.

Tour operators to the country are hoping for the opening of the land border with China. They would also like to see the opening of the Chinese land border with Vietnam because many travellers want to combine the two destinations in a single holiday.

Travel to Vietnam is easy and safe, with reliable domestic transport and hotels to suit visitors on all budgets. Independent travel specialist STA says Vietnam is one of its fastest-growing travel destinations.

A spokesman says: "Vietnam is at the stage that Thailand was six years ago. You can travel direct from Amsterdam with KLM or take a cheap flight via Bangkok."

The company is wary about sending travellers to Laos and Cambodia. Laos admits visitors only as part of a tour group. Cambodia is easier to get to, but the Foreign Office advises against travelling there because of renewed fighting outside the capital.

"But there will always be intrepid travellers who want to go there anyway," says the spokesman. "If they do, we strongly advise hiring a guide locally, because there are still a great many landmines."

TRAVEL NEWS IN BRIEF

Australia for £499

A SEVEN-night holiday in Australia, including flights and accommodation for only £499, was offered last night. Fourteen nights for £599 or 21 nights for £699 is being made available this winter by the fast-expanding tour operator Airtours (01706-260000). The price even includes all departure taxes.

The flights will be on Airtours International Boeing 767 jets via Bahrain and Singapore. The price compares with a standard economy single fare on a scheduled airline of £1,766, a club-class return of £4,544 and a first-class single of £6,352.

☐ The air will soon be almost completely smoke-free. From November 1, all of Britain's main charter airlines have agreed to smoking ban on flights lasting under six hours.

The general secretary of the Federation of Tour Operators, Alan Flook, says the number of complaints from non-smokers has risen to such a level that the federation has decided to ask its members to impose a smoking ban as soon as possible. All Virgin Atlantic's scheduled flights — except those to Tokyo — are to go smoke-free from May 1.

☐ Bluebird Express (01444 235678) is offering seats on the first non-stop charter flights to Las Vegas, Nevada, starting from March 20. Leisure International's long-range Boeing 767s will operate from Gatwick on the ten-hour flight and prices, including three nights' accommodation, all flights and transfers, start at £399.

☐ Kuoni (01306 740500) has seven nights' stay at the Ferringhi Beach Hotel in Penang, Malaysia for £439, with flights leaving London every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, until June 30.

☐ Caribbean Connection (01244 341131) is offering a £100 discount until the end of the month on all brochure prices to any destination in the West Indies when flying with British Airways. Prices now start at £817 for seven nights' bed and breakfast at Buccaneer Bay, Barbados.

HARVEY ELLIOTT

Soft focus on Scotland

Film locations prove attractive for tourists

Scottish tourist authorities are expecting a boost in visitors as four feature films, starring leading Hollywood actors such as Julia Roberts and Mel Gibson — and all filmed in Scotland — are premiered. *David Churchill writes.*



In Scotland: Julia Roberts, Mel Gibson

The Scottish Tourist Board (STB) hopes that the films, especially *Rob Roy*, featuring Liam Neeson and Jessica Lange, will do as much for tourism as *Sleepless in Seattle* did for Seattle and *Crocodile Dundee* did for Australia.

"We understand that Seattle in particular has become a major destination in the US as a result of the film," says Caroline Keith, from the STB. "We hope that the forthcoming films will do as much for us."

Apart from *Rob Roy*, which is due for release in May, the three other films shot in Scotland are *Mary Riley* with Julia Roberts, *Brave Heart* with Mel Gibson, and *Loch Ness* featuring Ted Danson.

According to the STB, there is no special reason why Scotland has become popular with Hollywood film-makers.

But Scottish hotels and leisure operators are gearing up to cash in. The Gleneagles hotel at Auchterarder in Perthshire, for example, plans to offer a tailored visit to Rob Roy's local haunts, from May.

The anticipation is justified. One of the fastest growing areas of tourism in the UK is in showing visitors where films and television series were made.

"Both big and small screens can create spin-offs, particularly for far-flung parts of the country," points out a British Tourist Authority spokeswoman. "Our New York office, for example, received a huge number of enquiries about Stamford, in Lincolnshire, when *Middlemarch* was broadcast in the US."

A *Holiday Which?* survey makes Virgin the best British airline

Singapore on top

THE BEST airline flying out of Britain is Singapore Airlines, according to a survey of 50 airlines carried out among readers of *Holiday Which?*, the Consumers' Association magazine, *Harvey Elliott writes.*

Although closely followed by Air New Zealand and Cathay Pacific, Singapore Airlines received more accolades than any other. The top-rated British airline in the survey, in which readers were asked which airline they would recommend to a friend, is Virgin Atlantic.

Unsurprisingly, Virgin did very well in its in-flight entertainment, with 88 per cent of passengers saying they had a good time on board. British Airways, says the report, has "improved significantly overall ... with high levels of satisfaction for check-in efficiency, leg room, seat comfort and cleanliness, although it performed poorly on catering and value for money". British Midland was regarded most highly on domestic routes and Britannia was the most praised charter airline. Overall, some 89 per cent of respondents thought that their flight represented very good or fairly good value for money.

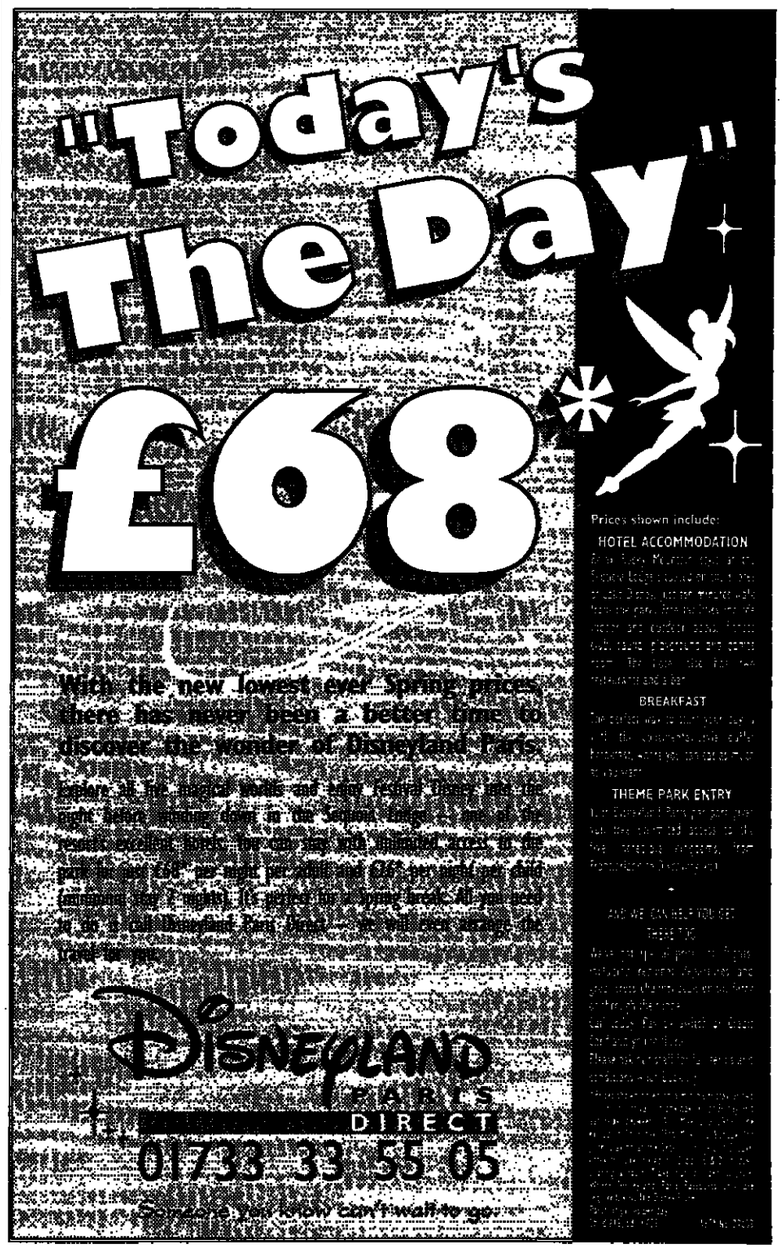
Balkan Bulgarian Airlines, however, came firmly at the bottom of the league table. More than half the respondents found the seating uncomfortable and 96 per cent said they were poorly entertained.

TEN BEST

Singapore Airlines
Air New Zealand
Cathay Pacific
Qantas
El Al
Swissair
Thai Airways Int
Virgin Atlantic
SAS
KLM

TEN WORST

Balkan Bulgarian Airlines
Ambassador Airways
Continental Airlines
Spanair
Olympic Airways
British World Airlines
Northwest Airlines
Alitalia
Airtours International
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NEWS

Memo urges caution on Europe

■ A leaked Whitehall paper has cast serious doubts on John Major's hopes of giving Westminster a bigger say over Brussels and says Britain will face opposition from more centralist member states and the European Parliament.

The briefing paper, prepared for a senior Cabinet minister, warns ministers that any attempt to strengthen the powers of national parliaments through amendments to the Treaty of Rome would be "fraught with difficulty" .....Page 1

Government under fire over power sale

■ The Government was facing the threat of legal action from aggrieved shareholders last night after disclosing that it considered calling off its latest electricity sale as late as last Friday because it knew that new curbs on power prices were under consideration.....Page 1

Fletcher sacked

Keith Fletcher, manager of the England cricket team, has been sacked. Ray Illingworth will combine his present post of chairman of selectors with the manager's job .....Page 1

Sinn Fein talks

Face-to-face talks between government ministers and Sinn Fein representatives could begin without the IRA handing over a single weapon, Downing Street sources claim .....Page 1

Leeson will talk

Nick Leeson is willing to tell all he knows about the Barings collapse to the Serious Fraud Office in the hope that he will be extradited to Britain .....Page 2

'Ringer' case revived

The case of Flockton Grey, the "ringer" alleged to have made £20,000 for its owner, is to return to the courts 11 years after the owner's conviction for conspiracy to defraud bookmakers ....Page 3

Holy matrimony

After two days of talks, representatives of the Church of England and the Methodist Church announced that they are to begin moves towards unity .....Page 5

Blake sentence

A new biography reveals that the spy George Blake was sentenced to a record 42 years in prison in 1961 after a secret deal with the Lord Chief Justice .....Page 7

Charity inquiry

The Charity Commission is investigating complaints that a children's charity chaired by a friend of the Duchess of York has raised up to £1 million and failed to account for its use .....Page 9

Saudi wins appeal

Muhammad al-Massari, a leading Saudi dissident, has won an appeal against a Home Office decision refusing him political asylum in Britain .....Page 11

Balladur setback

Edouard Balladur's bid to become French President suffered a setback after it emerged that he earned 2.5 million francs from share dealings just before his appointment in 1993 ..... Page 12

General found dead

Jacques Lefebvre, a retired Belgian air force general questioned over bribes scandals, has been found dead after apparently taking his own life ..... Page 13

US envoys killed

Karachi's law and order crisis has escalated with the murder of two American consulate workers, the first time foreigners have been targeted ..... Pages 14, 19

Gingrich assault

Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, has taken the offensive against the Democrats and launched a broadside against all aspects of America's liberal establishment ..... Page 15

Bike-shed smokers register as addicts

■ An exclusive independent school has reversed the growing trend of smoking among teenage girls by making them register as nicotine addicts to qualify for a daily cigarette ration. Fifth and sixth-formers may register with the doctor to be issued with one or two cigarettes a day while they are weaned off the habit. The school claims a high success rate ..... Page 6

MARK LENNIHAN/AP



Elizabeth Hurley at a news conference in New York yesterday after she was signed to promote Estée Lauder perfumes and cosmetics

BUSINESS

Lottery: The arrival of the National Lottery has prompted a drastic revision of the value of the Vernons football pools business, after sales fell by 15 per cent .....Page 25

Submarines: The Monopolies and Mergers Commission has been granted a month-long extension to report into rival takeover bids for VSEL .....Page 25

BAT: BAT, the tobacco and insurance giant, has set aside £123 million to cover potential compensation for mis-selling of pensions .....Page 25

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index rose 15.1 points to close at 2992.1. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 86.5 to 86.0 after a fall from $1.6242 to $1.6220 and from DM2.2604 to DM2.2489 ...Page 28

SPORT

Cricket: Keith Fletcher was dismissed as England team manager, with half of his five-year contract to run. Raymond Illingworth assumes full-time charge of all team affairs ..... Page 48

Rugby union: Scotland will be unchanged for their grand slam match with England. Ireland made six changes for the wooden spoon match with Wales ..... Page 42

Football: Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, should have the support of most Premiership managers in his attempt to improve refereeing standards ..... Page 44

Boxing: At the 88th University match philosophers will hit political scientists and historians will pummel linguists with an intent recognisable in any gym .. Page 46

ARTS

Aphorisms on screen: The bright wags of the Algonquin Round Table are the subject of the new film *Mrs Parker and the Vicious Circle*. Also reviewed this week: Demi Moore and Michael Douglas in the "reverse sexual harassment" movie *Disclosure*; and Jodie's Foster's latest, *Nell* .....Page 35

New mates: Simon Ward has taken over the role in *Cell Mates* so famously vacated by Stephen Fry. But will that be enough to save Simon Gray's play .....Page 36

Space-age museums: Two new museums in The Netherlands reveal the exhilarating aspects of "punk architecture" .....Page 37

New for viols: Viol music revived at the Purcell Room in honour of Purcell's tercentenary .....Page 35

FEATURES

Death penalty: As New York this week becomes the 38th state to reinstate capital punishment, Martin Fletcher talks to a man who spent nine years on death row for a crime he did not commit ... Page 17

Tasting danger: In an increasingly sanitised environment, are we losing our ability to cope with the natural world? Magnus Linklater reports ..... Page 17

BODY AND MIND

Mental torture? Ian Robertson on the difference between flotation tanks and sensory deprivation techniques ..... Page 16

BOOKS

Rabindranath Tagore: Winning the Nobel Prize convinced the Indian writer lauded by Pound and Yeats that he was supposed to be a guru, says P.N. Furbank .....Page 38

THE PAPERS

The dollar hit new lows against the German mark and Japanese yen yesterday. But the policy that could turn the dollar around — a stricter monetary policy — could also suffocate an already slowing economy.

The New York Times

The death penalty isn't the answer to voters' fear of crime. Life in prison without parole can be imposed faster, with the same effective results, at a fraction of the cost. And it is reversible.

USA Today

TV & RADIO

Preview: A seance, a 16th century satanist and a series of unexplained deaths are the ingredients of *Chiller* (ITV, 9pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond finds Esther Rantzen's *Hearts of Gold* familiar, formulaic and addictive .....Page 47

OPINION

Road to disarmament

As long as the IRA remains capable of bombing the City of London or of bringing down a helicopter by mortar attack, any constitutional settlement will rest on precarious *foundations* ..... Page 19

R for recovery

How extraordinary to find that the Government has decided not to renew funding for the highly successful Reading Recovery programme, which was introduced three years ago from New Zealand .....Page 19

Killings in Karachi

The murder of two American diplomats in the Pakistani metropolis has sown alarm in the increasingly unconvincing Government of Benazir Bhutto .....Page 19

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Europe consists of all its nations and it is more important to understand the problems of the peoples than the problems facing the bureaucrats .....Page 18

JANET DALEY

There has been a spate of pronouncements by churchmen on homosexuality but isn't the whole point of the Christian ethic to resist whatever "impure" desires one has? .....Page 18

CHARLES BREMNER

The French presidential election is imminent and no one should imagine it will result in a rosy new entente in which a Gaullist president helps London tone down Maastricht .....Page 18

OBITUARIES

John Owen, colonial administrator and conservationist; **Paul-Emile Victor**, polar explorer; **Robert Paterson**, former director of Mersyside Chamber of Commerce and Industry; **Geoffrey Adams**, palaeontologist .....Page 21

LETTERS

Cost to nation of top people's pay; divine judgment, as understood by Matthew Parris .....Page 18



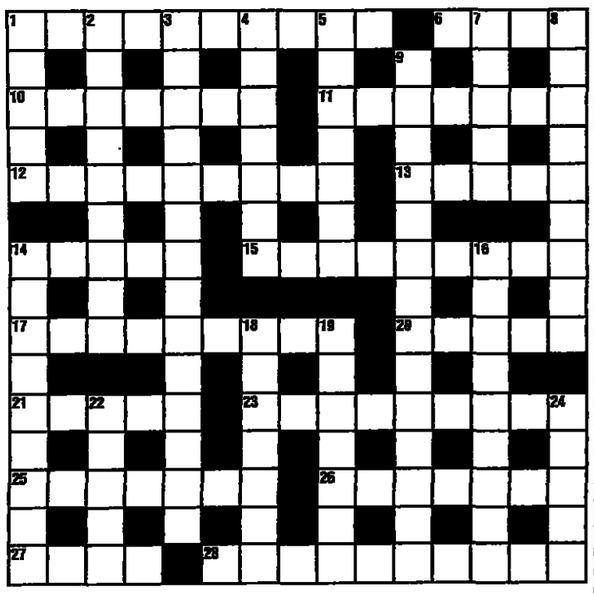
TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **NEVER ENOUGH**
Barry White: the deepest voice in popular music is back

■ **GAY BISHOP**
The Rt Rev Derek Rawcliffe, the first bishop to declare his homosexuality, meets Valerie Grove

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,798



ACROSS

1 Violent offender reported after game (10)
6 Fruit is unripe, green — like iron to start with (4)
10 Gasbag not finished? Wrap up! (7)
11 Not hurt when husband left, but vulnerable (7)
12 US poet really broke the ice (9)
13 Make car stop, causing delay (5)
14 Here, almshouses are not all in the country (5)
15 The place to see a show of meadow-saffron? (5,4)
17 For example, Ariel's little sea change? (9)
20 Selector's vase, say, that's used for storing the ashes (5)
21 Maiden in difficulty with a dance (5)
23 It's enough to make one a treble (9)
25 Restaurant with its own cutlery (7)
26 Inferior duck's lower part (7)
27 Fake national emblem is without foundation (4)
28 Waits outside anchorage to deliver bombardments (10)

DOWN

1 Unit in joint exercise (5)
2 Worship fellow Rugbeian in ritual of brotherly affection (4-5)
3 Editor's advice for young readers' entertainment (6-2-6)
4 Was about to mark one from the elks (7)
5 International currency business run from S America (7)
7 Vocal old woman character (5)
8 Semi-nude in Bellini composition can't be removed (9)
9 Misrepresentations produced by freelance pests (5,9)
14 Regulates hampers (9)
16 Eden's dormitory suburb? (4,2,3)
18 Ring round to one who recites in singsong manner (7)
19 Leader of uneconomic area is involved in a Continental union (7)
22 Divine nourishment in Indo-China when climbing (5)
24 River bed is without rubbish (5)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,797

M	A	G	I	S	T	R	A	T	E	U	S	E	D	
A	■	I	■	L	■	A	■	H	■	■	E	■	E	
I	N	G	L	O	R	I	O	U	S	■	B	A	N	G
N	■	S	■	A	■	S	■	R	■	P	■	L	■	E
■	■	■	A	N	T	E	D	I	L	U	V	I	A	N
W	■	E	■	■	■	N	■	L	■	N	■	E	■	■
A	B	S	O	R	B	I	N	G	■	L	A	G	E	R
T	■	P	■	A	■	M	■	I	■	A	■	W	■	A
C	H	A	I	N	■	B	E	A	N	F	E	A	S	T
H	■	O	■	G	■	A	■	■	■	A	■	X	■	E
M	A	R	S	E	I	L	L	A	I	S	E	■	■	■
A	■	I	■	R	■	A	■	N	■	T	■	A	■	O
K	I	L	T	■	U	N	I	N	F	O	R	M	E	D
E	L	■	C	■	A	■	N	■	A	■	E	■	■	■
R	E	E	L	■	B	E	L	L	W	E	T	H	E	R

Times Two Crossword, page 48

TIMES WEATHERFAX

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouos,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	735
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Tuesday: Highest day temp: Guernsey, Channel Islands, 9C (48F); lowest day max: Drumalbin, Strathclyde, 1C (34F); highest rainfall: Tiree, Inner Hebrides, 0.81in; highest sunshine: Edinburgh, 7.7hrs.

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will be bright with a frosty start but cloud and rain or sleet will spread from the south. It will be windy later. Scotland will be bright and sunny. Cloud, rain sleet or snow will move in later. Northern Ireland will have a frosty start with rain and sleet spreading from the south. Strong winds will develop later.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, E England, NE England:** clear, frosty start with sunny periods in the morning. Becoming cloudy in the afternoon. Winds moderate southerly. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll:** clear at first with widespread frost, clearing. Cloud and rain spreading from southwest, sleet at first on hills. Winds becoming strong southerly. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Channel Isles:** clear at first, becoming cloudy but mainly dry. Brighter again later. Winds fresh or strong southerly. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **SW England, S Wales, N Ireland:** early frost soon clearing. Cloudy in the morning with rain spreading from the south. Winds strong, locally gale, southerly. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney:** bright, dry morning with sunny periods, early frost lifting. Cloud and rain spreading from the south later. Winds becoming strong southerly. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Shetland:** wintry showers dying out in the afternoon, then bright or sunny intervals. Winds light or moderate southerly. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Outlook:** cloudy with rain at times, then brighter conditions moving in from the west.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	2.8	0.17	4	39	sn	Liverpool	5.1	0.22	6	43	sl
Anglesey	6.7	0.22	7	45	h	London	-	0.48	7	45	r
Aspatria	5.9	0.17	6	41	r	Lowestoft	1.2	0.28	7	45	r
Aviemore	2.8	0.03	3	37	sn	Manchester	4.1	0.19	6	43	sn
Belfast	X	0.03	-1	30	b	Margate	2.6	0.17	8	46	r
Birmingham	2.0	0.20	6	43	sn	Minehead	2.5	0.26	8	46	sh
Bognor R	0.5	0.43	7	45	r	Morecambe	6.2	0.20	6	43	sn
Bournem'th	-	0.56	7	45	h	Newcastle	5.7	0.05	6	43	sn
Bristol	X	0.24	7	45	r	Newquay	3.8	0.34	8	46	d
Buxton	3.2	0.24	4	39	sn	Norwich	0.7	0.33	7	45	r
Cardiff	1.0	0.24	7	45	h	Nottingham	X	0.12	7	45	r
Clacton	0.3	0.32	6	43	r	Oxford	0.5	0.17	5	41	r
Colwyn Bay	4.5	0.82	7	45	sh	Penzance	3.2	0.44	8	46	r
Cromer	0.5	0.28	7	45	r	Plymouth	-	0.28	7	45	r
Doncaster	3.9	0.12	7	45	sl	Poole	-	0.48	7	45	r
Dunbar	X					Prestatyn	X	0.21	6	43	sn
Eastbourne	2.2	0.09	8	46	r	Ross-o-wye	2.3	0.24	6	43	sn
Edinburgh	7.7	0.02	5	41	sn	Salcombe	0.2	0.30	8	46	sh
Eskdalemuir	2.8	0.41	1	34	sn	Sandown	0.5	0.61	9	48	r
Exmouth	0.4	0.28	8	43	sh	Seaton Snd	3.3	0.18	7	45	s
Falmouth	X	0.53	8	46	sh	Scarboro'	2.7	0.06	5	41	sn
Fishguard	3.9	0.24	6	43	sn	Scilly Isles	2.6	0.16	7	45	sn
Folkestone	3.9	0.06	8	46	r	Shanklin	0.2	0.52	7	45	r
Glasgow	5.3	0.23	4	39	sn	Shrewsbury	3.8	0.30	7	45	sn
Guernsey	-	0.44	9	48	r	Skegness	-	0.20	5	41	r
Hastings	1.8	0.13	8	46	r	Southend	4.6	0.32	8	46	sn
Hayling I.	0.6	0.47	8	46	r	Southport	5.4	0.30	6	43	sn
Herne Bay	2.7	0.13	8	46	r	Southsea	0.2	0.58	7	45	r
Hove	0.8	0.40	7	45	r	Stornoway	-	0.05	3	37	sn
Hunstanton	-	0.15	6	43	r	Swanage	0.6	0.36	6	43	r
Ilfracombe	X					Teignmouth	0.3	0.34	6	43	r
Isle of Man	7.6	0.13	8	43	s	Tenby	4.3	0.19	8	46	sh
Jersey	0.6	0.22	8	46	r	Thorn	1.5	0.81	4	39	sn
Kinlose	1.4	-	5	41	sn	Torquay	0.9	0.30	7	45	r
Leeds	4.3	0.02	7	45	sh	Tynemouth	X				
Lerwick	3.9	0.36	4	39	s	Ventnor	0.4	0.43	8	46	r
Leuchars	X	0.02	5	41	h	Weymouth	0.3	0.28	7	45	r
Littlehmptn	0.6	0.44	7	45	r						

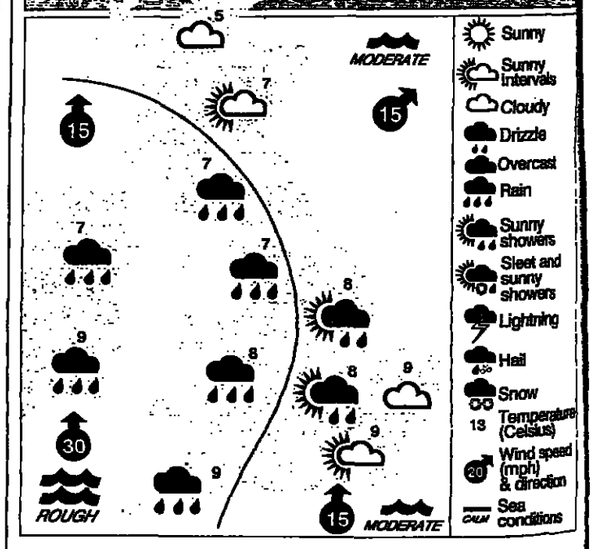
These are Tuesday's figures

ABROAD

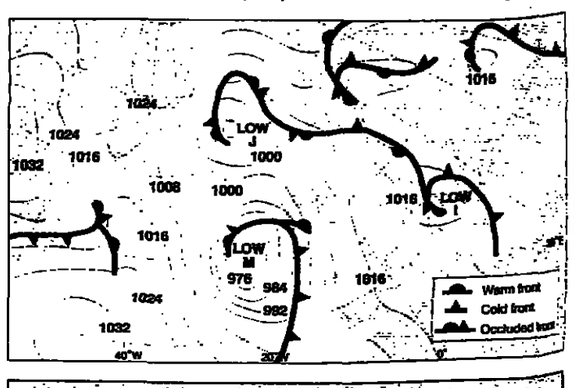
Ajaccio	12	54	c	C'phagn	5	41	s	Majorca	17	63	s
Alicelkt	18	64	s	Corfu	10	50	f	Malaga	18	64	s
Alex'dria	23	73	s	Dublin	8	43	f	Malta	16	61	f
Algiers	17	63	f	Dubrovnik	12	54	f	Melb'rne	21	70	c
Amst'dm	7	45	c	Faro	17	63	f	Mexico C	20	68	s
Athens	15	59	s	Florence	10	50	f	Miami	27	81	s
Bahrain	23	73	s	Frankfurt	5	41	c	Milan	8	46	f
Bangkok	33	91	f	Funchal	18	61	f	Montreal	-4	25	f
Barbados	-	--		Geneva	2	36	sn	Moscow	1	34	c
Barcelona	16	61	s	Gibraltar	18	64	s	Munich	7	45	s
Beirut	18	64	f	Helsinki	0	32	c	Nairobi	25	77	s
Belgrade	9	48	f	Hong K	22	72	s	Naples	14	57	f
Berlin	8	46	s	Innsbruck	7	45	s	N Delhi	24	75	s
Bermuda	22	72	s	Istanbul	12	54	f	N York	10	50	c
Biarritz	9	48	c	Jeddah	31	88	s	Nice	5	41	c
Borde'x	8	46	f	Jo'burg	24	75	f	Oslo	4	39	f
Brussels	3	37	r	L Palmas	18	64	c	Paris	5	41	c
Budapst	10	50	f	Le Tquet	s7	45	f	Peking	14	57	f
B Aires	21	70	r	Lisbon	13	55	f	Perth	26	79	s
Cairo	24	75	s	Locarno	7	45	c	Prague	7	45	s
Cape Tn	23	73	s	L Angels	17	63	s	Reykjavik	-1	30	f
Chicago	-1	30	sn	Luxembg	6	43	c	Rhodes	18	64	s
Ch'church	17	63	c	Lyon	28	82	s	Rio de J	30	86	f
Cologne	8	46	f	Madrid	10	50	c	Riyadh	29	84	s
Rome	13	55	f								
Salzburg	8	46	f								
S F'risco	11	52	s								
Santiago	25	77	s								
S Paulo	29	84	c								
Seoul	16	61	c								
Sing'por	31	88	f								
Sth'holm	4	39	c								
Strasb'rg	5	46	f								
Sydney	25	77	c								
Tangier	16	61	f								
Tel Aviv	19	66	s								
Tenerife	17	63	c								
Tokyo	15	59	s								
Toronto	5	41	c								
Tunis	15	59	s								
Valencia	16	61	s								
Vanc'ver	5	41	f								
Venice	10	50	f								
Vienna	8	46	s								
Warsaw	5	41	c								
Wash'ton	13	55	c								
Wel'ngton	19	66	c								
Zurich	4	39	c								

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to the chart below from noon: low J will move slightly north and fill; low I will move southeast and fill quickly; low M will drift north and fill gradually



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	6.13	6.16	6.39	6.12	Leith	7.23	4.38	8.04	4.54
Aberdeen	8.09	3.52	8.42	3.42	Liverpool	3.37	7.49	3.59	7.71
Avonmouth	11.32	10.27	11.48	10.15	Lowestoft	2.09	2.16	2.39	2.35
Belfast	4.00	3.10	4.32	2.93	Margate	4.17	4.05	4.52	4.13
Cardiff	11.25	9.56	11.42	9.56	Milford Haven	10.57	5.31	11.17	5.51
Devonport	10.05	4.41	10.33	4.40	Newquay	10.02	4.97	10.38	5.08
Dover	3.27	5.54	4.08	5.26	Oban	10.13	2.91	10.29	2.98
Dublin	4.36	3.36	5.17	3.26	Penzance	9.28	4.28	10.01	4.47
Falmouth	10.26	3.89	10.45	4.01	Portland	10.37	1.34	10.55	1.54
Glasgow	5.31	4.11	5.53	3.74	Portsmouth	3.44	4.03	4.16	4.21
Harwich	4.10	3.37	4.30	3.21	Shoreham	3.17	5.06	3.53	5.19
Holyhead	2.57	4.50	3.34	4.31	Southampton	3.16	3.89	3.50	3.98
Hull	10.47	6.02	11.19	5.74	Swansea	10.58	7.32	11.24	7.51
Ilfracombe	10.30	6.91	10.48	6.73	Tees	8.41	4.20	9.08	4.11
King's Lynn	11.10	4.84	11.52	4.65	Wilton-on-Nze	4.06	3.50	4.26	3.39

Crown copyright reserved. All tide times are GMT

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 6.30 am
Sun sets: 5.54 pm
Moon sets 1.32 am
Moon rises 10.20 am

London 5.54 pm to 6.27 am
Bristol 6.04 pm to 6.37 am
Edinburgh 5.03 pm to 6.43 am
Manchester 6.01 pm to 6.37 am
Penzance 6.17 pm to 6.48 am

First quarter today

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ANATOLE KALETSKY 29

Good news of the third ERM crisis



ARTS 35-37

Two museums for the 21st century open in Holland



BOOKS 38, 39

Sir Walter Scott: the legend and the life

COUSINS MAKES HIS MARK
Page 45

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

THURSDAY MARCH 9 1995

Bundesbank throws ERM a lifeline

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE Bundesbank yesterday said that it may cut interest rates to help bail out Europe's battered currencies on the day four stalwart members of the exchange-rate mechanism were forced to raise interest rates.

Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundesbank president, said the bank would test room for a small interest rate cut. He also said he expected to see a correction soon of the dollar, which plunged to another record low against the yen in Far East trading overnight.

Public comment on interest rates or currencies is unusual for the German central bank and is testament to how deep official concerns have become about the turbulence in the currency markets. Yesterday, there were hints by several leading politicians and central bankers that the international authorities are now co-operating and talking closely on how to stabilise the situation.

Alan Greenspan, chairman of the US Federal Reserve, came out strongly in defence of the dollar, saying its fall was unwelcome, troublesome and in all likelihood overdone. As the man who contributed to the currency's plunge when he hinted that US interest rates were now near their peak, his remarks yesterday appeared to suggest the opposite in an attempt to support the dollar.

He said the weak dollar contributed to potential inflation pressures, which must be contained and that, although the economy was slowing, it was uncertain whether it was enough to contain price pressures.

The verbal lifeboats were launched after France, Belgium, Denmark and Portugal all raised rates, citing the plunge in their currencies against the mark in recent days. Edmond Alphandéry, France's Economics Minister, said that "international co-operation is now underway" and that he expected results.

Helmut Kohl, Germany's Chancellor, said that economic and financial fundamentals were much better than the current franc rate suggested. Germany and France have been the twin pillars of moves towards economic and monetary union and the present attack on the franc, which echoes the assault on the French currency in summer 1993, is a reminder of the severe threat to the whole process posed by the currency markets.

There was no matching rate rise in Britain in spite of sterling's slump to record lows against the German currency. Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, met for their regular monthly meeting yesterday facing a serious dilemma. On one hand, failure to match rising interest rates elsewhere in Europe could put the pound under even further pressure. On the other, the two were faced with more evidence that activity in manufacturing, which has been powering the recovery, is continuing to slow.

The pound hit a new low of DM2.2205 but recovered to DM2.2530 by late European trading, helped by a rebound in the dollar after supportive comments from the Fed and the Bundesbank.

Herr Tietmeyer's hint that German interest rates may be lowered represents an extraordinary turnround. Only two weeks ago, economists were speculating on when German rates would rise but the massive flows out of the dollar and many European currencies into the mark appear to have produced a climate for the opposite move.

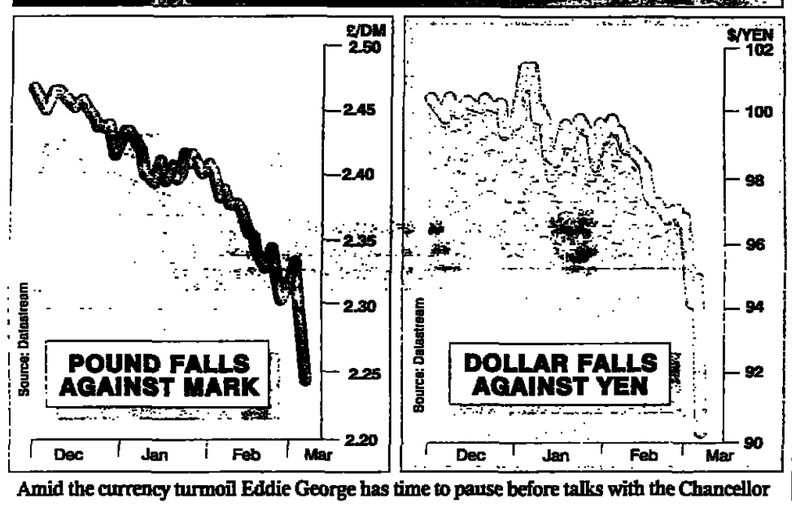
The dollar had plummeted to record lows of Y88.75 and DM1.3450 overnight but rebounded strongly after the statements by Mr Greenspan and Herr Tietmeyer. In late European trading, the US currency was quoted at Y91.65 and DM1.4000.

Yesterday's strong verbal support for the dollar appears to have had a considerable effect in the short term, but currency dealers continued to argue that concrete steps — interest rate moves — were needed to stabilise the markets in the medium term.

Pennington, page 27
Anatole Kaletsky, page 29

TONY WHITE





Amid the currency turmoil Eddie George has time to pause before talks with the Chancellor

MMC gets more time for VSEL report

BY ROSS TIEMAN

THE Monopolies and Mergers Commission has been granted a month-long extension to report into rival take over bids by British Aerospace and GEC for VSEL, the Barrow in Furness submarine builder.

The key report, which was to have gone to Michael Heseltine, the President of the Board of Trade, next Wednesday, will now be delivered on April 12.

The MMC findings, and Mr Heseltine's response, will set a formal framework for government attitudes to the accelerating rush of mergers among Britain's defence equipment makers.

GEC, which already owns the Yarrow frigate-building yard on Clydeside, will dominate UK warship building if it is allowed to renew its £532 million bid for VSEL.

BAe, which offered £575 million for VSEL in an effort to extend its aerospace and armaments interests into warship building, remains determined to implement the strategy unveiled by its agreed takeover last autumn.

The Office of Fair Trading recommended examination only of the GEC bid, but Mr Heseltine insisted both were referred, because of the wider issues.

An MMC spokesman said: "The issues and complexity of this particular inquiry are such that we feel that we had to ask for another month to make sure we get it right."

Shares in GEC closed at 285p, up 2½p. BAe rose 4p to 476p, but VSEL eased 27p to £14.98.

Pennington, page 27

Power shares continue to fall

BY MARTIN WALLER AND ERIC REGULY

SHARES in electricity companies fell heavily for the second day yesterday after the shock re-opening of the debate on price controls by the industry regulator on Tuesday, wiping out further potential profits on the newly-issued shares in the two generators.

Worst affected was Northern Electric, which has decided to recommend a hostile bid from Trafalgar House. Northern lost 104p to 793p compared to a cash offer on the table of £11 from Trafalgar which expires at lunchtime tomorrow.

The fall came as the market took on board the implications of Northern's surrender to the £1.2 billion bid on Tuesday night. There is still doubt that Trafalgar will eventually want to take control at Northern.

But the market increasingly believes that Northern cannot now afford the £5-a-share package of incentives promised to its shareholders, even if it retains its independence.

Part-paid shares in the two generators, which started trading on Monday, fell further. PowerGen slipped 2p to 187½p, while National Power was 1p lower at 175½p. Both are barely above the price at which they were sold to the public, 170p for National Power and 185p for PowerGen.

Adding to the sector's woes was the inevitability that this summer's £4 billion flotation of the National Grid, jointly owned by the 12 regional electricity companies, would at best be severely delayed. There is the possibility that it may have to be shelved altogether if the companies decide they cannot afford to give it away under whatever new regulatory regime is imposed.

A meeting of marketing directors of the 12, scheduled for yesterday, was cancelled, a tacit acceptance that the industry has agreed that there is, at present, nothing to market.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	2982.1	(+15.1)
Yield	4.50%	
FT-SE A All share	1472.75	(+2.34)
Nikkei	16621.31	(-333.97)
New York:		
Dow Jones	3974.74	(+12.11)*
S&P Composite	483.32	(+1.20)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5¾%*	(5¾%)
Long Bond	100²⁹⁄₃₂*	(100)
Yield	7.59%*	(7.63%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6¾%	(6⁷⁄₁₆%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	100¹⁵⁄₃₂	(100²⁄₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6190*	(1.6395)
London:		
$	1.6164	(1.6405)
DM	2.2530	(2.2572)
FFr	8.0120	(8.0700)
SFr	1.8800	(1.8799)
Yen	147.61	(149.07)
£ Index	86.0	(86.5)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.3925*	(1.3730)
FFr	4.9630*	(4.8955)
SFr	1.1630*	(1.1405)
Yen	91.20*	(90.40)
$ Index	90.7	(91.4)

Tokyo close Yen 89.53

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (May) $16.70 ($16.80)

GOLD

London close..... $381.35 ($381.45)

* denotes midday trading price

Hovering

The Ministry of Defence is at last poised to place a £1 billion order for military transport helicopters. The order is expected to be divided between a consortium made up of Westland and Agusta, the Italian manufacturer, and *the rival American group* Boeing. Page 26

Setting sun

The future of Standard Chartered's share trading business in the Far East is in doubt after it ran up losses during the past year. A review is trying to find ways of cutting high fixed costs. Page 31

BAT makes provision on pension mis-selling

BY SARAH BAGNALL

BAT INDUSTRIES, the tobacco and insurance group, said yesterday it had set aside £123 million to cover potential compensation for mis-selling of pensions by Allied Dunbar and Eagle Star, its subsidiaries The charge is net of any professional indemnity cover.

Market estimates of the total compensation package payable to individuals are as high as £3 billion. BAT's two insurance companies have a 6 per cent share of the pension transfer market.

However, BAT is not making a provision against possible damages arising from class legal actions in the US against tobacco companies.

Sir Patrick Sheehy, chairman, said: "We have never put up any provisions in the past because we have never expected to lose, and we have never lost. We have not made any provisions because, again, we don't expect to lose."

Sir Patrick announced flat pre-tax profits of £1.8 billion for the year to December 31. Profits were dented by a £191 million reorganisation charge for the integration of American Tobacco, acquired last year for S$1 billion.

About two-thirds of the £191 million charge is for redundancies among the acquired company's workforce of 3,000, which has been cut by 50 per cent already and is due to fall significantly further. The balance of the charge is for asset writedowns. Excluding the provision, profits would have risen 10 per cent, driven by a strong performance by the tobacco operations.



Sheehy: flat profits

Underlying tobacco trading profits rose nine per cent, aided by a strong recovery in the US, where BAT is the third largest tobacco company. Worldwide cigarette sales rose 4 per cent to 572 billion cigarettes.

Financial services trading profits were flat at £902 million because of lower investment returns that offset advances in the underwriting performance.

Losses incurred by Farmers, the group's California-based insurer, as a result of the Los Angeles earthquake stand at $1.7 billion. Eagle Star's profits fell £23 million to £157 million, while Allied Dunbar's post-tax surplus rose 9 per cent. Mortgage indemnity losses fell from £115 million to £48 million.

The final dividend, due on July 3, was lifted to 15.75p, making a total for the year of 21.9p, up from 20.1p last time. BAT is paying an additional 2.35p of foreign income dividends. Earnings per share rose two per cent to 39.1p.

Lottery hits Ladbroke

THE arrival of the National Lottery in November has prompted a drastic revision of the value of the Vernons football pools business, owned by Ladbroke Group, after competition from the lottery sent sales down 15 per cent (Martin Waller writes).

Ladbroke, which reported full-year figures yesterday, has taken a £100 million loss by writing the value of the Vernons brand name off its balance sheet. The loss is one of a raft of one-off provisions that sent Ladbroke into a £229.8 million pre-tax loss in 1994, against £51.4 million profit.

Vernons profits fell £2.3 million to £13.1 million on turnover up 5 per cent at £174 million. But this only covered six weeks of the lottery.

The final dividend is 3.6p, making a same-again total of 6.0p, just covered by earnings before exceptionals of 7.29p. At the operating level before exceptionals, profits fell just £1.2 million to £248.5 million after a better performance from betting and gaming was outweighed by a lower contribution from property.

Tempus, page 28

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Brothers giveth, Barings taketh away

BY ROBERT MILLER

BROTHERS at Downside, Britain's leading and oldest Catholic public school have lost £50,000 invested in Barings's Preference shares.

The £1.5 million that Downside Abbey Trustees, a registered charity, will have to cut back on bursaries and support for local churches and Downside Abbey, founded in 1607, near Bath.

Internationale Nederlanden Groep (ING), the Dutch bank and financial services group that has bought Barings, has already made a one-off £10 million payment to the charitable Barings Foundation. The Downside charity hopes that ING will consider making an ex-gratia payment to make good its loss.

Father Charles, the Abbot of Downside, last night said: "We were advised to invest in the perfectly respectable Barings Preference Shares. It would seem to be quite unjust that substantial payments should be promised to the Barings Foundation, which held Ordinary shares while others are being left out in the cold."

Barings is expected to open its doors for business again today, two weeks after the losses run up in Singapore by Nick Leeson allegedly caused the collapse of the bank.

ING and Barings' administrators, Ernst & Young, the accountancy group, were due finally to complete the transfer of ownership yesterday. The official completion of the deal means that Barings' £2.5 billion deposits that were frozen when the bank went into administration can now be withdrawn. ING was steeling itself today for a run on deposits.

Abbey National yesterday moved to distance itself from the Barings collapse. It changed the name of its derivatives operation to Abbey National Financial Products, from Abbey National Baring Derivatives.

Almost 100 staff at Barings Securities in Singapore were celebrating the end of uncertainty, with the news yesterday that they will be included in the rescue takeover by ING.

Leeson offer, page 2
Hu interview, page 29
Accountancy, page 33

MoD poised to place £1bn order for helicopters

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Ministry of Defence is at last poised to place a £1 billion order for military transport helicopters. The order is expected to be divided between the EH consortium made up of Westland and Agusta, the Italian manufacturer, and Boeing of America.

Westland and its partner are expected to receive a £500 million contract to supply 22 transport versions of their new EH101 aircraft. Boeing, meantime, will be asked to deliver up to 15 of its larger, twin-rotor Chinook machines.

Ministers from the defence and trade departments are expected to sign the necessary contracts before today's Cabinet meeting.

The contract to supply military transport versions of EH101 will bolster the fortunes of Westland, which has been hampered by a severe shortage of orders. It will also be welcomed by GKN, which acquired Westland last April as part of a drive to build up its defence business.

GKN is expected today to announce doubled profits for 1994 of about £200 million. Compensation payments for a cancelled Westland order in the Middle East will have helped GKN to build up a cash surplus of about £250 million. But a Ministry of Defence endorsement of the EH101 military transport is vital to the future of Westland and its 6,000 employees in Yeovil, Somerset.

Last year, the company delivered only one new helicopter, although development and refurbishment work helped to maintain sales by the helicopter business at about £300 million.

Production is expected to rise to nine machines this year, as the company fulfills Sea King contracts for the Royal Navy and the Norwegian navy, and delivers Lynx helicopters to the Brazilian navy.

But the success of the EH101 will be the bedrock of Westland's battle to survive in an international market, which is widely perceived to be oversupplied with helicopter makers. Westland has already secured orders to supply 44 Merlin anti-submarine versions of the EH101 to the Royal Navy. A civil version has been certificated, but has yet to secure any orders. Boeing fought hard to win the entire order, offering to place work of twice the value of the contract with British firms.

Royal Air Force chiefs favoured the Chinook, which can carry twice the payload of the EH101. But the EH101 flies further, faster, and in all weathers, and should prove cheaper to maintain in the long run.

With the initial contract secured, Westland will be able to offer the machine to replace military Sea King and Puma helicopters later in the decade, as well as bidding to supply transport and anti-submarine versions overseas.

The MoD has contributed £1 billion to the development of the EH101, a sum matched by the Italian Government. Production work is equally divided between Westland and Agusta, making the impending contract worth about £250 million to Westland.

With a sizeable transport aircraft order under its belt, Westland will also be better placed to bid to supply the Army with its first specialised attack-helicopters.

MICHAEL POWELL



David Wellings, left, and Dominic Cadbury, chairman

Cadbury sales top £4bn for first time

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

CADBURY Schweppes shrugged off concerns over the UK cola wars yesterday to unveil a 15 per cent jump in profits as sales topped £4 billion for the first time.

Pre-tax profits rose to £478.5 million from £416.3 million in the year to December 31 on sales of £4 billion, up from £3.7 billion. The result was at the bottom end of analysts' expectations, which had been set after Cadbury forecast profits of not less than £475 million in January when it announced the £1.1 billion takeover of Dr Pepper/Seven-Up, the US soft drinks group.

Profit growth was fuelled by another strong performance from the UK operations, where trading profits increased 22 per cent. The beverages side had a record year despite the launch of own brand colas by the leading supermarket chains. Profits from continental Europe were hit by further provisions for the restructuring of the Spanish drinks business.

David Wellings, chief executive, said the priority this year was to integrate Dr Pepper.

A second interim dividend of 11p was paid on March 3 instead of a final payment to give a total of 15.6p (14.4p).

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Lloyds Chemists set to shut Supersave

LLOYDS CHEMISTS is set to close Supersave, its drugstore chain, with the loss of about 600 jobs. Peter Lloyd, chief executive, said that Supersave had been hit by the supermarkets' expansion into toiletries and the rise of local discount retailers. The results of a strategic review have yet to be finalised. However, Mr Lloyd expects 180 stores will be converted to a new upmarket health and beauty format, while a further 30 will be transferred to Holland & Barrett, the group's health food chain. The remaining 100 will be closed.

Pre-tax profits at Lloyds edged up to £26.6 million, from £26.2 million, in the six months to December 31. Earnings per share rose to 14.04p from 13.96p. The interim dividend is raised to 2.9p (2.7p) and will be paid to shareholders on June 9.

Beazer Homes grows

BEAZER HOMES said successive rises in interest rates undermined the residential property market in January, but by February reservations had returned to 1994 levels. The company is paying a maiden interim dividend of 1.95p a share from earnings of 6.2p, rising from 4.6p. In the half year to December 31, pre-tax profits rose to £24.5 million, from £15.6 million. The number of home completions totalled 3,301, up from 2,210.

De La Rue sale close

THE management of Portals Engineering, one of the eight businesses put up for sale by De La Rue, the banknote printer, in the wake of its takeover of Portals, the paper group, in December, is close to agreeing to buy the firm for £10 million. De La Rue, which is being advised by Flemings on the disposals, hopes to complete the sale in the next two to three months. The management buyout is being led by Dave Humphries, the company's managing director.

Perkins-Korean deal

PERKINS diesel engines are to be produced in South Korea through a long-term partnership with Halla Group, a Korean conglomerate. The collaboration, which will be managed by Perkins' European headquarters in Peterborough was announced during a visit to Britain by President Kim of Korea. Under the first stage of the agreement, Perkins will transfer the technology of its Eagle automotive engines and 1000 series and 2000 series industrial diesels.

SIG soars to £19.8m

PROFITS at SIG, the acquisitive company formerly known as Sheffield Insulations, surged to £19.8 million from £9.8 million last year. The company recommends a final dividend of 4p a share, lifting total dividends 11 per cent to 6p, payable from earnings of 18.2p a share (12.7p). The shares eased 3p to 236p. Turnover rose to £291 million from £170.7 million. The company expects market conditions in 1995 to remain broadly similar to last year.

B·A·T INDUSTRIES

Dividend up 9%

– continuing strength in profits and cash flow

	Preliminary results for the year to 31 December 1994	
PRE-TAX PROFIT	£1,802m	
EARNINGS PER SHARE	39.1p	+2%
DIVIDENDS PER SHARE	21.90p	+9%
– Additional FID payment on 1994 final	2.35p	

- Pre-tax profit is after a £191m reorganisation provision for American Tobacco. Without the provision, profit would have been 10 per cent higher at £1,993m.
- Tobacco trading profit increased by 9 per cent to £1,207m on an underlying basis. Strong recovery in US, good performances elsewhere but a difficult first half in Brazil. Group cigarette volumes rose 4 per cent, with exports up 13 per cent.
- Financial services trading profit of £902m from continuing businesses was flat, as lower investment returns more than offset a much improved underwriting performance. Funds managed by subsidiaries of £42bn.
- "With the continuing strength of our profits and cash flow, we remain confident of our ability to pay dividends well in excess of the rate of inflation. The Board is therefore recommending final dividends of 15.75p, based on an underlying increase of 9 per cent for the year.

Our first Foreign Income Dividend was tax efficient for the Company, well received by shareholders and we are pleased that we can pay 70 per cent of this year's final as a FID. **Taxpaying shareholders will have received dividend increases of 30 per cent over two years."**

Sir Patrick Sheehy, Chairman

Full financial statements for the year ended 31/12/94 will be delivered to the Registrar of Companies and carry an unqualified audit report.
The 1994 Annual Report is being posted to shareholders at the end of March. Copies of the preliminary announcement may be obtained from the Company Secretary, B.A.T Industries p.l.c., Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0NL



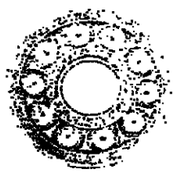
We reduce friction to help you move the world forward.

SKF is the world leader in bearing technology. We reduce friction in vehicles, ships, trains and aircraft. In heavy industry and household appliances. In rockets and computers, in robots and cameras.
Almost everything that moves can move faster, more smoothly, more easily and – more cheaply. Less energy for machines means more energy for mankind.

REPORT ON 1994 OPERATIONS. *Consolidated income after financial income and expense for the 1994 fiscal year amounted to 1 817 million Swedish kronor (-669). Group sales totaled SEK 33 273 m (29 200). Volumes increased by approximately 14 percent.*
Demand for rolling bearings accelerated during 1994. The recovery was unexpectedly strong in Europe. The greatest increases took place in the passenger cars and trucks sector. Demand also increased in machinery industry and aftermarket. Earnings per share amounted to SEK 11.05 (-2.95). The return on capital employed was 14.7 percent (3.4) and on shareholders' equity 13.3 percent (-7.4). Group solvency amounted to 30.8 percent (20.7) at year-end.

DIVIDEND. *The Board of Directors proposes that a dividend of SEK 4.25 per share (0) be paid. The total proposed dividend is SEK 480 m (0).*

FORECAST. *Demand for the Group's products continues to be strong. It is estimated that prices will be more favorable than in 1994, whereby a further improvement in earnings is anticipated.*



AVERAGE RATE OF EXCHANGE.
1994: 1 £ = 11.80 *SEK*.
1993: 1 £ = 11.69 *SEK*.
For a copy of the 1994 Annual Report, please contact: SKF Group Public Affairs, S-415 50 Göteborg, Sweden. Tel: +46-31-37 10 00. Fax: +46-31-37 17 22.

SKF



Surprise hits Coo

Laporte ahead at £123m

Doub boos

هكذا من الاصل

☐ Warship bid is tough issue for MMC ☐ Trafalgar's Northern lottery ☐ Currency storm should pass Britain by

Arming the defence industry

☐ BRITAIN is strong in services, such as pharmaceutical development, finance, communications, music and air travel. In manufacturing, the European leadership role in far too many key sectors has been ceded to continental rivals without much of a fight: civil aircraft and space technology to France, cars and lorries to Germany, shipbuilding and telephone exchanges to Germany and Scandinavia, power generating to France and Germany, transport to France and Sweden, consumer durables to Italy. The list is long. In many cases, the UK will remain a big manufacturer, but not the centre.

In the hitherto protected, high-margin, defence industry, however, Britain is Europe's leader. This is not, perhaps, the ideal or most inspiring industry in which to have this leadership role: demand is falling and potential competition from Eastern Europe frightening. But it has acquired undue importance in British manufacturing as a centre for technology, excellence, exports and quality employment.

Rivals are well behind — at least, they have been well behind until now. In the next few years, everything will be up for grabs. The industry will consolidate, as in America. European armed forces will harmonise weaponry. Procurement will be rationalised, for ships, aircraft, tanks, armoured cars, guns, missiles and the electronics that make up a rising proportion of arms costs. Unless companies, the Ministry of Defence and the DTI are unwontedly smart, Britain will lose again.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry into rival bids by Britain's two prime defence groups for VSEL, the main warship builder, has therefore taken on unusual importance. The commission's verdicts, and Whitehall's response, are vital.

As yet, the strategy best adopted is unclear. Britain might aim for champions so strong that they can see off continental firms. But is this politically feasible? British companies could aim to lead Europe-wide multinationals, if allowed to. More realistic options might be to have British fingers in every pie, by collaborating on individual projects in shifting European consortiums or via fixed Airbus-style consortiums.

The one-month delay in vetting the bids for VSEL is a small indicator of the difficulties. Given the need for some competition, the dangers of getting things wrong are immense. There are already warning signs. Continental countries are pressing heavily for the consortium approach. Since Britain is the strongest exporter to third countries, however, it is almost certain to lose from such a trend. Imagine a new al-Yamamah contract. It would have to be shared between French, German, Italian and Spanish companies as well as British. If that is the way forward, it is vital that Britain should make sure it has the largest share of joint companies from the start, in marked contrast to Airbus.

Trafalgar charts uncertain course

☐ ANY sort of investment in the electricity sector is now a guessing game, thanks to Stephen Littlechild, but investing in Northern probably ranks with the National Lottery as an assured way to a fortune.

Of vital importance is whether Trafalgar is buying Northern shares in the market, at £8



apiece, that it has pledged to pay £11 for tomorrow. Theoretically, Trafalgar could save itself a maximum of £50 million of its £1.2 billion bid if it vacuumed up 15 per cent of Northern at today's price rather than tomorrow's.

The indications, highly provisional, last night were that it is doing no such thing. As Northern plunged more than a pound for the second successive day, just one million shares or less than 1 per cent of the share capital changed hands. At the last count, on Tuesday night, market-makers at Swiss Bank Corporation, Trafalgar's adviser, held 1.3 million shares. Two weeks ago they had none. Time will tell, but the indications must be that Trafs is at least unsure of the way forward until advisers have done the sums and worked out what the company is worth. Northern shareholders will not now get their £5 bundle of goodies promised even if they remain loyal, and on the above analysis they may not be assured of their £11 from Trafalgar. If shareholders do accept, Trafalgar will decide, presumably on March 31, whether it wishes to own Northern or walk away. This is well before the regulator is due to set any new price regime. Trafalgar will be placing its own bet, based on the little evidence anyone has of the unpredictable Professor's thinking. If Trafalgar walks away, Northern will then have to decide, once the new regime is known, how much of the goodies to pay out, or whether to do a little walking away itself.

The market believes that Professor Littlechild will settle for a new price cap of RPI minus 4. This would cost £50 million in lost revenue between next year and the end of the decade, no great loss given the size of the bid and the enormous tax advantages, easily topping £200 million, it offers to Trafalgar. That suggests Trafalgar will go ahead — but no one knows. Keep watching the share register.

Britain at ease in the maelstrom

☐ IF Ken is as canny as he claims, and Eddie as steady, they will have decided to do absolutely nothing at yesterday's monthly meeting. When you are bobbing up and down in the wash of a big liner, it is not the moment to start rowing purposefully in any direction.

Having retreated since November, sterling has now moved decisively lower on the trade-weighted index than before the first of the recent interest rate rises on September 12. Judged by the sort of tests the Bank of England sets for itself, therefore, it has failed to convince the outside world of its anti-inflationary credentials. But this particular test does not necessarily prove anything.

At home, growth is plainly slowing. Manufacturing output in the three months to end-January was lower than in the previous three. So was the wider measure of industrial production. The downturn was concentrated in intermediate and investment goods; engineering was weak, albeit partly because of Government-induced chaos in the transport industry.

In out-of-character fanatical moments, the Bank frets that export growth might spur inflation by filling up unused capacity. That should not happen now. Devaluation during recession did not prove too inflationary. Aside from the credibility issue, sterling's weakness is also a healthy source of sustained future growth for the economy.

The Treasury can surely live with export-led growth at a sustainable rate. Sometimes, it is comforting to be the helpless piggy in the middle.

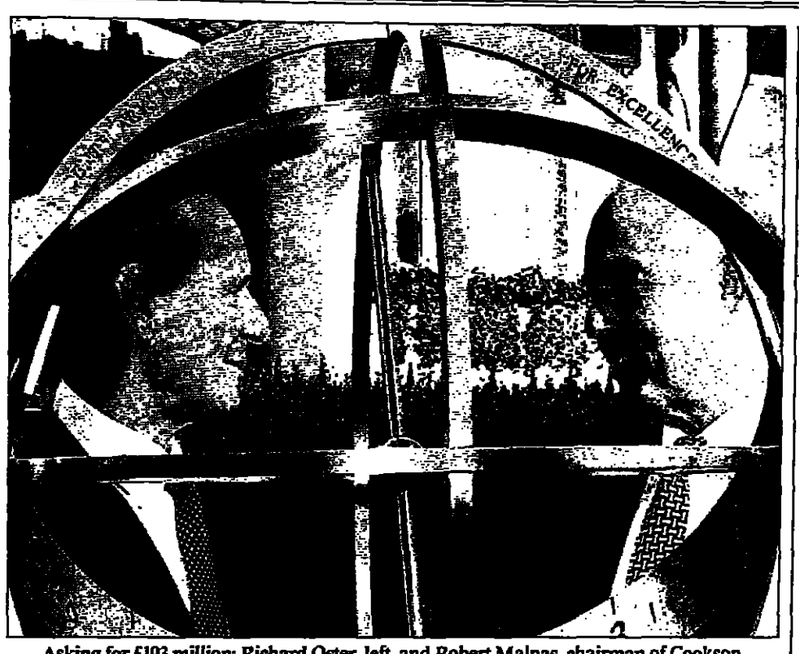
Something brewing

☐ A NOTE from the Brewers and Licensed Retailers Association informs the world that Anheuser Busch, the world's biggest brewer, is joining as an associate member, the same Anheuser for whom Courage brews beer at the old Watneys brewery in Mortlake, west London. Might Anheuser's new affiliation have anything to do with its rumoured plans to buy that brewery?

Shares plunge as Costain says takeover unlikely

SHARES in Costain plunged from 18½p to 12½p yesterday after the troubled construction group revealed that it was not likely to receive a takeover bid, a reversal of an announcement made last month (George Sivell writes). Costain was forced to announce on February 2 that it was in talks concerning a bid for the whole company and an offer for its American coal mining business after a rise in the share price to 24p.

Bovis, P&O's construction arm, emerged as favourite to take over Costain, with Hanson also thought of by the market as a possible suitor. Yesterday, however, Costain said it was selling only its interest in Dolet Hills mining in the US for £47 million and, in the absence of a buyer, was holding on to the rest of the US mining business at a cost of a £100 million write off. The City is now likely to downgrade profits forecasts for 1995 with initial snap estimates of break even. Costain said yesterday it had renegotiated its banking facilities for the group and that the takeover talks it had been engaged in would "if successfully concluded, lead to a significant strengthening of engineering and construction operations."



Asking for £193 million: Richard Oster, left, and Robert Malpas, chairman of Cookson

Surprise rights hits Cookson

BY CARL MORTISHED

COOKSON Group shares tumbled yesterday as the industrial materials company launched a £193 million rights issue and announced acquisition plans, including an agreement to buy Tolaram Fibers, an American specialist fibre manufacturer.

The surprise one-for-five cash call at 175p caused Cookson shares to fall from 217p to 197p, despite the announcement of strong sales and operating profits growth. Cookson, which last November called off merger talks with Johnson Matthey, the precious metals group, boosted underlying sales 14 per cent in the year to December to £1.5 billion, while pre-tax profits before exceptional items grew by 38 per cent to £120 million.

Profits at the pre-tax level, including losses on business on the sale and closure of businesses, fell from £95 million to £51 million. Cookson is raising the dividend 11 per cent to 7p after earnings of 14.8p (11p). Richard Oster, group chief executive, predicts the company will be cash positive before acquisitions in 1995. The company, which traditionally invests heavily, reduced its cash outflow last year to £5 million, despite capital spending of £158 million.

Cookson will pay $35.9 million cash for Tolaram, which made pre-tax profits of $14 million last year. The vendors will also receive shares worth about $59 million issued by a Cookson subsidiary, plus a further $2.3 million in cash contingent upon settlement of tax liabilities.

Cookson intends to merge Tolaram with Camac Corporation, its existing US fibres business, and rename the group Cookson Fibres.

Mr Oster said the purchase of Tolaram was part of the group's strategy to focus on higher growth and higher margin businesses. He indicated that Cookson was in advanced negotiations to buy a business for the electronic materials division, while Cookson Matthey Ceramics, the recently formed joint venture with Johnson Matthey, was also negotiating to buy.

Mr Oster said that proforma gearing following the acquisitions would be 18-20 per cent, but would have risen to 60 per cent without the cash from the rights issue. Cookson also revealed yesterday it was in the process of selling a business in its plastics division.

Cookson yesterday reiterated its Vision 2000 objectives which aim to achieve compound sales growth of over 10 per cent and sales margins of 10 per cent plus. Mr Oster predicted that over the next five years group margins could reach 12-14 per cent.

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Laporte ahead at £123m

A SHARP rise in raw material costs was comfortably absorbed by Laporte, the chemicals company, which broadly maintained margins and lifted pre-tax profits to £123.5 million last year from £107.4 million in 1993 (Martin Barrow writes).

Ken Minton, chief executive, said the current year opened satisfactorily, with most markets showing levels of activity similar to last year. With £59.2 million of capital expenditure in 1994, against £48.8 million previously, the benefits of a two-year investment programme would support further progress.

Turnover rose to £978.4 million (£893 million). The company recommends a final dividend of 14.5p a share, making 22.4p for the year (20.7p). Earnings advanced to 46.1p a share from 41.4p. The shares rose 20p to 656p.

Doubled profits boost RTZ price

BY CARL MORTISHED

SOARING metals prices produced bumper profits at RTZ, the mining group, last year, and Robert Wilson, chief executive, expects demand for metals in the leading economies to continue to strengthen.

Shares in RTZ rose almost 4 per cent to 758p as on news that pre-tax profits had more than doubled to £922 million after a 7 per cent increase in demand for copper on world markets. RTZ is increasing the total dividends for the year by more than a third to 27.5p, including foreign income dividends of 20.5p.

Excluding exceptional items, profits increased from £373 million to £595 million, with higher metal prices contributing £173 million of the gain. Volume growth brought in a further £35 million and efficiencies added £32 million, but exchange rate effects held profits back by £21 million.

RTZ believes that the growth in demand for metals will continue in spite of a recent softening in commodity prices on futures exchanges. Concern over a slowdown in the American recovery caused investors to reduce their positions in base metals, but RTZ reckons metal prices are a long way from their peak.

Mr Wilson said: "Overall production volumes, adjusted earnings and dividends were all at record levels notwithstanding metal prices being 32 per cent below their 1988 peak levels."

Copper and gold sales brought in £109 million of the profit increase. RTZ's acquisition of a 10 per cent interest in Freeport McMoRan from $450 million will give the mining group a 40 per cent interest in any expansion of production at Grasberg in Irian Jaya, Indonesia, a huge copper reserve.

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City Diary, page 29

GLOBAL EXPANSION IN BEVERAGES AND CONFECTIONERY

1994 RESULTS

"I am pleased to report excellent progress in 1994 with pre-tax profit up 14.9% to £478.5m. The trading margin increased from 11.7% to 12.5% and volume growth was also stronger.

Sales	£4,029.6m	+ 8.2%
Trading Profit	£504.4m	+ 15.7%
Pre-Tax Profit	£478.5m	+ 14.9%
Headline Earnings per Share	31.52p	+ 6.2%
Dividend per Share	15.60p	+ 8.3%

Headline earnings per share increased by 6.2% while published earnings per share rose by 2.8%. A second interim dividend of 11.00 pence was paid instead of a final dividend to give a total of 15.60 pence for the year, an increase of 8.3%.

We have continued to broaden the base of the business with confectionery acquisitions in Continental Europe and our 1994 performance enabled us to support significant investment for future profits growth in developing markets. The acquisition of Dr Pepper / Seven-Up in the US early in 1995 represents a major strategic milestone in the largest soft drinks market in the world.

The 1994 results demonstrate our ability to succeed in competitive markets. We are confident that the enlarged Group is well placed for future growth."

Dominic Cadbury, Chairman

Cadbury Schweppes

MANAGEMENT PROVEN IN THE MARKET PLACE



PHILIP PANGALOS

Uncertain future for shares as power failure goes on

THE bloodbath among the electricity companies continued and currency markets remained in turmoil, but some of the City's leading equity strategists provided evidence of how uncertain they are as to where shares go from here.

Nick Knight, Nomura's market guru, is bearish on short-term prospects for UK and US equities. He says the current FT-SE 100 index level of about 3,000 is "wrong", with his short-term target nearer the 2,500-2,800 level.

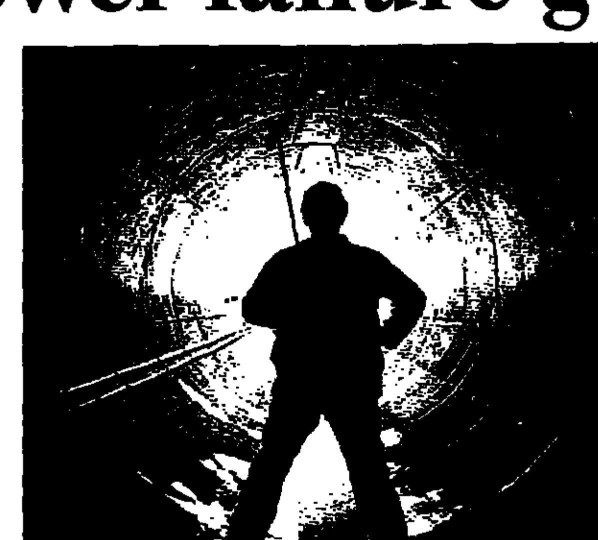
Mr Knight, whose year-end forecast remains at 3,200, says valuations of the UK market do not absorb all the political risks and currency uncertainties, pointing to overstretched equity valuations relative to bonds. He says UK currency weakness is undermining the bond market, while the prospect of higher rates and political uncertainty make matters worse.

There is even talk of a slide to 2,400 in the UK, while in America the Dow Jones is expected to fall to 3,500 in the second-quarter ahead of "a hard landing for the US economy in 1996". In Japan, Mr Knight says the strength of the yen leaves the Japanese equity market vulnerable, with fears of a repatriation of money to shore up the domestic equity market.

Michael Hughes, managing director of economics and strategy at BZW, is more optimistic and is keeping his target at 3,500. "If anything, the short-term prospects for a rally seem more favourable than a setback," he said.

Trevor Laugharne, UK investment strategist at Kleinwort Benson, is maintaining his year-end FT-SE target at 3,500, while in the America, where further rate rises are expected, a year-end Dow Jones of 4,200 is predicted. "The valuations of the market at the moment are reasonably attractive. Liquidity isn't that bad and we haven't been hit by too many rights issues. It's sentiment that's holding people back, though the natural long-term funds should stabilise the market," he said.

Shares endured another roller-coaster ride as the currency turmoil continued. There was a sigh of relief after futures buying was prompted by hopes that UK interest rates will escape the latest round of rate increases within the ERM.



Water shares were weaker but the losses were limited

A positive start on Wall Street further bolstered sentiment in late London trade. The FT-SE 100 index reversed an initial 18.4 point fall to close 15.1 higher at 2,992.1. Volume reached 619 million shares.

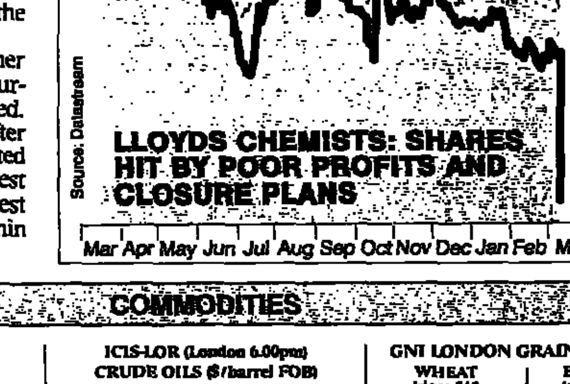
Electricity utilities remained at centre stage, still reeling from Tuesday's shock price-review statement from the regulator. Fears of a more stringent price review was again reflected in the FT-SE 250 index which lost 27 points to 3,300.9, giving a two-day retreat of 93.8 points.

Northern Electric, which threw in the towel late on Tuesday and urged shareholders to accept the £1.23 billion bid from **Trafalgar House**, was hardest hit. Northern shares tumbled to 757p before recovering to end 104p lower at 793p, giving a two day loss of 262p, as fears mounted that Trafalgar, ½p firmer at 59p, may withdraw its offer.

Elsewhere, **East Midlands** fell 34p to 561p, **Eastern**, 35p to 560p, **London**, 35p to 573p, **Manweb**, 55p to 634p, **Midlands**, 40p to 582p, **Norweb**, 36p to 627p, **Seeboard**, 21p to 341p, **South Wales**, 35p to 640p, **Southern**, 21p to 582p and **Yorkshire**, 43p to 621p. Among the generators, **National Power** rose 4p to 442p, though the partly paid dimmed 1p to 175½p, compared with an initial offer price of 170p, while **PowerGen** firmed 2½p to 471p and the partly-paid lost 2p to 187½p, against an offer price of 185p.

Water shares were also weaker, though losses were more limited. **North West** dipped 12p to 505p, **Northumbrian**, 22p to 820p, **Severn Trent**, 17p to 493p, **South West**, 15p to 465p, **Southern**, 18p to 528p, **Welsh**, 23p to 582p and **Yorkshire**, 19p to 497p.

The banks research team at Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, put out a sell recommendation on Abbey National, up 1½p at 442p, and a buy note on Royal Bank of Scotland, up 3½p at 405p. Elsewhere, Rentokil firmed 6p to 224p after help from a "trading buy" recommendation from Bikuben Securities.



Sentiment elsewhere was underpinned by a host of favourable trading statements. Healthy profits increases saw demand for **BAT Industries**, 11p stronger at 422p, **RTZ**, 26p higher at 755p, **Laporte**, up 20p to 656p, **Commercial Union**, 10p firmer at 515p, and **Standard Chartered**, additionally boosted by broker buy recommendations, climbed 17½p to 265p.

In sharp contrast, **Lloyds Chemists** tumbled 48p to 237p after the retailing group accompanied lower-than expected first half profits with plans to close its Supersave drug-store chain.

Costain slumped 6p to 12½p, on volume of 4.76 million shares, as bid hopes faded after the company said it has decided to retain most of its US coal mining assets and unveiled plans a massive £100 milloin write-down.

Asprey was another heavy faller, losing 12p to 94p, with reports of an overnight bed-and-breakfast deal at 88p.

Inchcape was a firm market, adding 8p to 309p amid renewed but vague talk of a bid from Jardine Matheson. **VSEL** slid 27p to £14.98p as the DTI extended the deadline for the MMC report on the bids by **British Aerospace**, up 4p at 476p, and **GEC**, 2½p firmer at 285p.

There was relief in a nervous new issues market after **Albright & Wilson**, the chemicals company, marked its return to the market with a 12p premium, ending at 162p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Weaker industrial production figures helped give the gilt market a boost as interest rise fears faded. The June series of the long gilt reversed an ealy 14 point fall to end 21 ticks higher at £101⁴/₃₂, on active volume of 97,000 contracts traded. Among conventional stocks, gains extended to £⅛ among longer-dated securities, while index-linked issues were up by up to £¼.

☐ **NEW YORK:** US Shares moved back into positive territory in morning trading after a sell-off attributed to comments made by Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Fed. The Dow Jones industrial average at midday was up 12.11 points at 3,974.74.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 3974.74 (+12.11)
S&P Composite .... 483.32 (+1.20)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average .... 16621.31 (-333.97)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 7929.99 (-208.67)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index .... 395.99 (-2.75)

Sydney:
AO .... 1883.2 (-8.0)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 2025.21 (-28.13)

Singapore:
Straits .... 2063.38 (-35.15)

Brussels:
General .... 6691.80 (-78.99)

Paris:
CAC-40 .... 1736.76 (+8.15)

Zurich:
SKA Gen .... 597.00 (-7.50)

London:
FT 30 .... 2291.8 (+14.2)
FT 100 .... 2992.1 (+15.1)
FT-SE Mid 250 .... 3300.9 (-27.0)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100 .... 1243.54 (-5.66)
FT A All-Share .... 1472.75 (+2.34)
FT Non Financials .... 1591.46 (+0.32)
FT Gold Mines .... n/a
FT Fixed Interest .... 108.77 (-0.39)
FT Govt Secs .... 90.53 (+0.18)
Bargains 28309
SEAQ Volume 619.1m
USM (Datastrm) .... 145.57 (-0.17)
US$ .... 1.6220 (-0.0022)
German Mark .... 2.2489 (-0.0115)
Exchange Index .... 86.0 (-0.5)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
£:ECU 1.2176
£:SDR 1.0569
RPI .... 146.0 Jan (3.3%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Albright & Wilson (150)	162	...
Bath Press (10)	12½	...
Colleagues	126	...
GET Group (125)	128	...
Geared Inc Inv C (100)	101	...
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts	84	...
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts Wts	56	...
Lazard Birla Ida	50¼	-½
Lazard Birla Ida Wts	29	-¼
MCIT S Cap (35)	33	...
MCIT S Inc (35)	36	...
Melrose Energy Wts	4½	...
Nat Power (P/P) (476)	175½	-1
Photobition (150)	153	...
PowerGen (P/P) (512)	187½	-2
Throg Dual Zero Div Pf	101½	...
Wessex Trust	11	...
Zotefoams (145)	178	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Cadbury Sch Cv Ln p/p	185	-3
Dalgety Cv Ln 95 p/p (335)	68	+1
Shorco n/p (90)	1	...
Torex Hire n/p (50)	2½	...
Wyko n/p (52)	14	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Nat West	489p (+12½p)
Standard Chart	265p (+17½p)
SG Warburg	696p (+17p)
JD Wetherspoon	487p (+11p)
ICI	680p (+10p)
Laporte	656p (+20p)
BAT	422p (+11p)
Woodside	231p (+10p)
Horace Small	121p (+13p)

FALLS:

Hambros	196p (-12p)
Micro Focus	693p (-15p)
Asprey	94p (-12p)
Security Serv	738p (-10p)
Waste Mgmt Intl	287p (-11p)
Lloyds Chem	237p (-48p)
Sothebys	663p (-15p)
Cookson	197p (-20p)
Thomson Corp	735p (-10p)
Borland	562½p (-12½p)

Closing Prices Page 34

TEMPUS

Cautious Cookson

COOKSON wants its shareholders to take a lot on faith. Having called off its merger talks with Johnson Matthey last November, investors were looking for a clear steer from the board on Cookson's future direction, but yesterday they woke up to a demand for £193 million to fund an acquisition spree.

There is nothing wrong with buying companies and yesterday's deal to buy Tolaram, a specialist fibre manufacturer, looks inexpensive at about seven times the company's 1994 pre-tax profits. Cookson has also delivered on past promises of improving margins and cash flow. Yesterday's results were impressive, with 14 per cent organic growth in sales — and the company has lifted its return on sales from a low of 3.9 per cent in 1991 to 9 per cent last year, with over 60 per cent of businesses generating margins beyond the 10 per cent target level. The problem is that success brings with it expectations. Cookson loves to set targets, and this year expects cash flow before acquisition expenditure to turn positive for the first time. However, shareholders are being asked to pay the bill for Tolaram — about £25 million, plus the assumption of £10 million in debt — and two further deals, although we are told gearing would only reach 60 per cent without a rights issue. At the same time the company is negotiating a major disposal.

A confident Cookson is holding out the promise of double-digit sales growth and 12 to 14 per cent margins, but the company finds relatively modest levels of gearing uncomfortable. If Cookson is so cautious, it should not complain if investors remain cautious too.

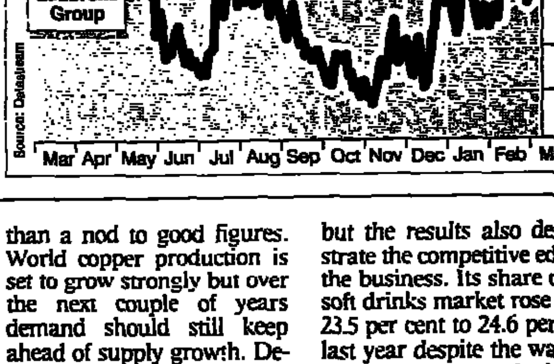
Ladbroke

The normalisation of Ladbroke means that the company can now be judged on standard investment criteria rather than as a punt on its unpredictable former management. But this hardly stands out in the sea of red ink unleashed yesterday.

The exit from DIY brings gearing down to a more respectable 57 per cent. It also removes a business that could not be made a success without spending more than Ladbroke could afford.

Most analysts would question whether Vernons should have ever gone in the balance sheet, so the decision to write it down to asset value seems sensible. Ladbroke's decision to stop the discretionary element of its donation to the Foundation for Sport and Arts should give it another £6 million to reinvest. In hotels, the downturn in Europe has been less than some feared, while the recovery in the UK has been slower. Those of a nervous disposition should note that Ladbroke's chances of acquiring its US counterpart, Hilton Corporation, are on a par with a National Lottery win.

Dividends are now a little more than covered after last year's cut. The realisation of the remaining £500 million property portfolio over the next two years could prompt a rise in the payment, but, on a same-again basis, the shares are yielding 4.4 per cent. The shares are trading on 18 times' earnings, which reflects the market's respect for the new management.



RTZ

THE collapse in mining shares last autumn took almost a fifth of the value from RTZ as investors feared that the base metal rally had gone too far. Early this year speculative funds took a cue from equities and knocked metal futures from their perch with aggressive selling of futures contracts as the market absorbed bearish news about American interest rates.

A correction in metal prices was overdue but yesterday's figures from RTZ give pause for more reflection. While the American motor may have slipped into lower gear, European and Japanese manufacturers are lagging their US peers and Europe alone accounts for about half of world metal consumption. Meanwhile copper inventories have fallen to as low as five weeks' consumption and aluminium stocks are down by almost half.

Yesterday's fillip to the RTZ price should be more than a nod to good figures. World copper production is set to grow strongly but over the next couple of years demand should still keep ahead of supply growth. Despite the recent slide, average metal prices are well ahead of 1994 and this year RTZ will make up last year's setback in the iron ore price. On that basis, a forward multiple of 11 times 1995 earnings makes RTZ look oversold and a yield of 4 per cent seems too high for a company delivering good dividend growth.

Cadbury Schweppes

FEARS that the cola wars would hit profits from Coca-Cola & Schweppes Beverages, Cadbury Schweppes' UK drinks operation, have proved to be unfounded. Not only did CCSB's profits rise by 19 per cent but margins increased by 1.6 percentage points to 14.4 per cent.

The hot summer helped, but the results also demonstrate the competitive edge of the business. Its share of the soft drinks market rose from 23.5 per cent to 24.6 per cent last year despite the wave of new entrants. Even in the big supermarket chains, which account for only a quarter of CCSB's sales, its share slipped by less than half a percentage point.

What happens in one sector of the UK is becoming less important: the acquisition of Dr Pepper/Seven Up has transformed it into a truly international player. Last year the UK accounted for almost half of group profits; this year the figure will fall to just over a third.

The potential value of the Dr Pepper acquisition is enormous but with gearing set to reach 100 per cent and serious challenges ahead, the shares may be jittery in the short term but remain outperformers long term.

EDITED BY
CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	1030-1029	May	1059-1057
May	1024-1023	Jul	1067-1065
Jul	1029-1028	Sep	1075-1073
Sep	1035-1034	Dec	1087-1085
Dec	1037-1036		
Mar	1050-1049		Volume: 6689

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	3270-3250	Nov	3080-3070
May	3210-3207	Jan	3060-3040
Jul	3133-3132	Mar	3040-3020
Sep	3095-3093		Volume: 2889

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	330.3-330.
Spot: 080.0		Mar	328.3-28.0
May	376.0-75.8	May	328.3-26.6
Aug	363.0-62.8	Aug	326.3-24.0
Oct	336.5-36.2		Volume: 1030

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 7

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	90.30	122.97	121.03
(+/-)	+2.81	+0.45	+0.83
Eng/Wales:	91.18	122.99	119.44
(+/-)	+1.77	+0.39	+0.71
(%)	+21.0	-3.0	-11.0
Scotland:	81.45	122.90	125.65
(+/-)	+2.56	+0.68	+0.38
(%)	-46.0	-23.0	+5.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	16.75	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Apr)	16.80	-0.10
Brent 15 day (May)	16.70	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	18.40	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (May)	18.25	-0.15

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 172 (+1)	O: 174 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	146 (n/c)	147 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Apr	147 (-1)	148 (-1)
Non EEC 1H May	148 (-1)	149 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	108 (+1)	110 (n/c)
Naphtha	170 (-1)	172 (-1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Mar	143.75-44.00	Jun	146.50-46.75
Apr	146.00-46.25	Jul	148.00-48.25
May	146.25-46.50		Vol: 24193

BRENT (6.00pm)

Apr	16.81-16.82	Jul	16.56-16.59
May	16.70-16.71	Aug	16.55 SLR
Jun	16.65-16.66		Vol: 27149

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Mar	109.15	Mar	104.25
May	110.60	May	105.15
Jul	111.45	Sep	97.50
Sep	99.65	Nov	100.05
Nov	100.75	Jan	101.80
Volume: 491		Volume: 136	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Apr	300.0	287.5
May	unq	342.0
Jul	—	—
		Volume: 156

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/kg)
Apr 119.25-119.75

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Mar 95	2195	2170	2195
Apr 95	2195	2165	2185
May 95	2165	2140	2155
Jul 95	1920	1895	1910
Vol: 578 lots			Open interest: 4022

Index 2090 +7

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2902.0-2904.0	2894.0-2895.0	1534625
Lead ($/tonne)	576.00-576.50	589.00-590.00	137675
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1021.0-1022.0	1047.0-1048.0	615425
Tin ($/tonne)	5380.0-5381.0	5455.0-5465.0	20175
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1809.0-1809.5	1846.0-1847.0	1735800
Nickel ($/tonne)	7620.0-7660.0	7760.0-7800.0	127554

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Dom.	500	17	26	35½	10½	24½	26½
(*503)	550	1½	8	15½	47	50½	57½
Argyll	280	13	18	23	8½	15½	19
(*281½)	300	5	9½	14½	21	28½	31
ASDA	60	10	12	12½	0	1	1½
(*69½)	70	2	5½	6	2½	4	5½
Boots	460	23	33	39½	4½	15½	18
(*475½)	500	4	13	20½	26	38½	40
Br Airways	360	31½	40	45	2½	10½	14½
(*386)	390	11½	22	28½	13	24	28
BP	390	16	24	30½	7	12½	17½
(*396)	420	4	11	17	25½	29	34
Br Steel	140	16	19½	22	0½	2½	4
(*154½)	160	3	7½	11	8	11½	13
C & W	360	17	27	35	7	16½	19½
(*367)	390	5	13½	21½	25	33½	36½
CU	493	24	—	—	12	—	—
(*514½)	543	2½	—	—	48	—	—
ICI	650	39½	59½	66	5	12½	19½
(*680½)	700	10	30½	40	25½	34	42½
Kingfishr	420	26½	33½	44	9½	18	21
(*440)	460	6	15	26	34	40½	42½
Land Sec	550	43½	51	54½	1½	11½	13½
(*588½)	600	9½	19	26	18	35½	39
M & S	360	22½	29	34½	2½	9	11½
(*377½)	390	5½	13	19½	16	24	27
Nat West	460	36½	50	56	4	9½	15½
(*489½)	500	11½	26	33½	19	25½	33½
Sainsbury	390	24½	32	38½	3	11	14
(*408½)	420	7½	15	23	15½	25½	29
Shell	700	13	24½	36½	20½	26½	33
(*704)	750	0½	8	17	63	64½	66½
Smkl Bch	500	16½	30½	40½	12	23	27½
(*501)	550	2	11½	20	49	54½	57½
Storehse	200	17	22	24½	1	5	6
(*214½)	220	5	10	13½	8	13½	14½
Trafalgar	50	10	12	14	0	1	1½
(*59)	60	3	6	9	3	5	5½
Unilever	1150	30½	50	75½	25	35	43½
(*1166)	1200	7	27	51	59½	65½	72½
Zeneca	850	35½	59	75½	20	32	41
(*880)	900	13	35	52	49½	59	67½

Series		Calls May	Aug	Nov	Puts May	Aug	Nov
Grnd Met	360	21½	27	33½	8	13½	15
(*370)	390	7½	12½	19	23½	28½	30½
Ladbroke	160	13½	18½	21½	4	7	9
(*171)	180	4	9	12	15	17½	19½
Utd Bisc	330	17	23½	28½	13	16½	21½
(*339)	360	6½	12½	16½	33½	36	40

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
BAA	420	14	24	31	9	16½	19½
(*423)	450	3	—	—	28	—	—
Thames W	460	20	30	35	7	21	25½
(*470)	500	4½	12	17½	31½	47½	50

Series		Calls May	Aug	Nov	Puts May	Aug	Nov
BAT Ind	420	12½	22	28	22½	32	34½
(*421½)	460	3½	9	15	55	59	61½
BTR	300	12½	20	23½	11	14½	18½
(*307)	330	3	8½	11½	33	34	37
Br Aero	448	35	—	—	10½	—	—
(*475½)	487	15	—	—	29	—	—
Br Telcm	360	20½	27½	31	6	14	16
(*367½)	390	6½	12	16½	22½	31	33
Cadbury	409	25½	37	—	7½	11½	—
(*423)	447	7	17½	—	27	31	—
Guinness	390	24½	31	36	7½	12	15
(*409)	420	7½	16½	21	24½	28	30½
GEC	280	14½	20	22½	5½	12	14½
(*285)	300	5½	10	13½	17	24	26
Hanson	220	18½	21½	23½	2	5½	7½
(*234)	240	6½	10½	13	10	14½	17
LASMO	140	13	17½	20½	3	5	6
(*150)	160	3½	7½	10½	13½	15	16½
Lucas	180	12½	18½	22	6½	9½	13½
(*185½)	200	5	10	13½	18½	21	25
Pilkingtn	160	9	11½	15½	4½	8	9½
(*163)	180	2	4	7	17½	20½	21½
Prudential	300	10	16½	20	12½	16	20
(*304)	330	2½	6½	9½	36	37½	40
Redland	420	14	22	27	24½	29½	34
(*421½)	460	2½	9	13½	57½	59½	61½
R-Royce	140	11	15½	17½	4	7	8½
(*148)	160	3	7	9½	17	19	19½
Tesco	240	12½	16½	20	7½	10	12½
(*246)	260	3½	7½	11	20	22	24
Vodafone	180	15	18½	23	5	8½	10½
(*187)	200	5	9½	14	15½	19	21
Williams	300	28½	30	32½	4½	8½	13
(*321½)	330	7½	14	17½	19½	24½	28

FT-SE INDEX (*2991)

	2850	2900	2950	3000	3050	3100
Calls						
Mar	149½	103	61	29½	10½	2½
Apr	160	121½	87½	58½	37½	21½
May	178½	142½	110½	81½	59½	40½
Jun	189½	153½	124½	95½	73	52½
Dec	—	247	—	187	—	141½
Puts						
Mar	3½	7	16	33	65	109
Apr	18½	29½	46	67	96	130½
May	29½	42½	60	80½	109	140½
Jun	41½	54½	74	94½	122	152
Dec	—	101½	—	141½	—	195

Series		Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Nat	420	22	27½	34½	2½	12	18½
(*441½)	460	0½	10	16	33	36	41
Amstrad	150	16½	21½	—	0	3	—
(*166)	175	1	7	—	9½	14	—
Barclays	550	39½	44½	55	0½	12½	20½
(*589)	600	3	18½	29½	22	37	45½
Blue Circ	260	8½	17½	23½	1½	13	18
(*266½)	280	0½	8½	15	14	25½	30
Br Gas	280	7½	15	18	1	9½	12½
(*286)	300	0	6	9½	14	23	24½
Dixons	200	7	16	20	1½	8	12½
(*205½)	220	0	6½	10½	14½	18½	25
Forte	220	12	17	23	0½	7	10½
(*231)	240	1½	7	13½	9½	18	21
Hillsdwn	160	19½	22	23	0	3	5
(*179½)	180	2½	8	11½	2½	12	14
Lonrho	130	7	14	15½	0½	4½	7
(*136½)	140	1	9	10½	4½	9	11½
Sears	90	7½	9½	11	0	2	3
(*97½)	100	1	3	6	3½	7	8
Thrn Eml	1000	30½	64	74½	1½	17½	36
(*1027½)	1050	3½	36	46½	24½	40	61½
Tomkins	220	10½	20	24	1	6	10½
(*230)	240	0½	9½	14	11	15	21½
TSB	220	12½	23½	28	0½	7	11
(*232)	240	1	12½	17½	9	16½	21
Wellcome	1000	33	35	50	5½	6	10½
(*1032½)	1050	2	2½	20½	35½	35½	36½

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Glaxo	650	36	56½	69	11½	22	30½
(*670)	700	11½	31	43	37½	47½	62½
HSBC	600	41	52½	65	15	28½	39½
(*635)	650	12	29½	42½	43½	56½	65½
Reuter	420	30	42	51½	5½	13½	17½
(*447)	460	8	21	31	25	33	36½

Series		Calls May	Jul	Oct	Puts May	Jul	Oct
Royal Ins	260	22½	28½	32½	5½	9	14
(*273½)	280	11	17½	22	14½	18	23½

Series		Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Fisons	140	6½	13½	18½	1½	10½	14
(*144½)	160	0½	5½	11	15½	22½	26

Series		Calls May	Aug	Nov	Puts May	Aug	Nov
Eastern Gp	550	42	53	59	21½	38	46
(*560½)	600	20½	30½	38½	49½	68	76½

Series		Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	420	24	35	39	0	11	15
(*442)	460	2½	13½	18½	18	32	36½
Scot Pwr	300	13	25	30½	1	8½	15
(*312)	330	0½	10	15½	18	23½	31

March 8, 1995 Tot: 40204 Call: 15953 Put: 24251 FT-SE Call: 4712 Put: 12278
*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Mar 95	2964.0	3010.0	2955.0	2997.0	17662
Previous open interest: 66506	Jun 95	2969.0	3009.0	2961.0	3003.0	3401
FT-SE 250	Mar 95	3310.0	3310.0	3310.0	3310.0	50
Previous open interest: 4114	Jun 95	3329.5	3329.5	3329.5	3329.5	50
Three Month Sterling	Mar 95	93.03	93.13	92.85	93.05	36517
Previous open interest: 450067	Jun 95	92.26	92.37	92.08	92.28	86751
	Sep 95	91.76	91.90	91.59	91.84	26525
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 95				93.67	0
Previous open interest: 2748	Jun 95				93.32	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 95	94.93	94.98	94.92	94.95	24784
Previous open interest: 821009	Jun 95	94.60	94.72	94.59	94.68	61174
Long Gilt	Mar 95	100-00	101-01	99-27	100-29	6602
Previous open interest: 96934	Jun 95	100-05	101-11	100-01	101-04	98509
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 95	111.20	111.26	110.60	110.89	5248
	Sep 95				110.11	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Jun 95	89.83	90.39	89.79	90.24	169850
Previous open interest: 165738	Sep 95	89.62	89.75	89.62	89.74	239
Three month ECU	Mar 95	92.80	93.03	92.80	92.95	3044
Previous open interest: 27307	Jun 95	92.56	92.92	92.56	92.86	3817
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 95	96.13	96.19	96.13	96.15	1501
Previous open interest: 46027	Jun 95	95.83	95.95	95.83	95.90	6456
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 95	92.20	93.45	91.44	93.20	50069
Previous open interest: 52630	Sep 95	91.12	91.12	91.12	92.20	14

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6¾ Low 4 Week fixed: 5¾
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⅜; 3 mth 6⅜. Sell: 2 mth 6⅜; 3 mth: 6⅜.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝	6⅞-6⅞	
Sterling Money Rates:	6½-6⅜	6⅝-6⅝	6⅞-6⅞	7¼-7¼	8-7¾
Interbank:	6½-6⅜	6⅝-6⅝	6⅞-6⅞	7¼-7¼	8-7¾

Overnight: open 6¾, close 3¾.

Local Authority Deps:	6¾	n/a	6¾	7¼	7⅞
Sterling CDs:	6⅝-6½	6⅝-6⅝	6⅝-6⅝	7¼-7⅛	7⅞-7¾
Dollar CDs:	6.04-6.01	n/a	6.22-6.19	6.42-6.39	6.82-6.79
Building Society CDs:	6⅝-6½	6⅝-6⅝	6⅞-6⅞	7¼-7⅛	7⅞-7¾

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Jan 31, 1995 Agreed rates Feb 26, 1995 to Mar 25, 1995 Scheme III: 7.97%. Reference rate Dec 31, 1994 to Jan 31, 1995 Scheme IV & V: 6.624%.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6-5⅞	6⅛-5⅞	6¼-6⅛	6⅝-6½	5¼-4¾
Deutschemark:	4⅞-4¾	4⅞-4¾	5⅛-4⅞	5⅜-5¼	5¼-4¾
French Franc:	7⅝-7⅜	7⅝-7⅜	7⅝-7⅜	6¾-6½	9-7
Swiss Franc:	3⅞-3⅝	3⅞-3⅝	3⅞-3⅝	4-3¾	4¼-3¼
Yen:	2⅛-2	2¼-2⅛	2¼-2⅛	2¼-2⅛	2⅛-1¾

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $383.00-383.40 Close: $381.10-381.60 High: $383.90-384.40 Low: $379.60-380.10 AM: $383.10 PM: $380.00

Krugerrand: $382.00-384.00 (£235.50-237.50)

Platinum: $417.25 (£255.90) Silver: $4.60 (£2.835) Palladium: $157.50 (£96.60)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 8	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.5016-2.5424	2.5232-2.5297	¼-⅛pr	1⅛-1pr
Brussels	46.44-46.85	46.53-46.67	3-2pr	8-3pr
Copenhagen	9.0530-9.1270	9.0530-9.0730	⅛-⅜ds	⅜-⅞ds
Dublin	1.0018-1.0090	1.0029-1.0061	4-12ds	14-36ds
Frankfurt	2.2303-2.2683	2.2499-2.2560	⅜-¼pr	1⅛-1pr
Lisbon	235.46-238.53	236.00-236.79	65-78ds	226-254ds
Madrid	205.72-208.37	206.60-207.03	54-74ds	131-202ds
Milan	2660.00-2690.00	2680.00-2690.00	8-12ds	22-30ds
Montreal	2.2731-2.3165	2.2731-2.2777	0.29-0.40ds	0.59-0.72ds
New York	1.6154-1.6414	1.6154-1.6174	0.11-0.08pr	0.27-0.21pr
Oslo	10.0160-10.0890	10.0370-10.0580	1⅛-½ds	4⅛-3⅛ds
Paris	7.9640-8.0670	8.0030-8.0220	1-2ds	4⅛-6⅛ds
Stockholm	11.5590-11.6840	11.5590-11.5900	1⅛-2⅛ds	5⅛-6⅛ds
Tokyo	146.26-148.69	147.35-147.87	⅜-½pr	1⅛-1⅛pr
Vienna	15.69-15.97	15.79-15.84	2⅛-2⅛pr	8⅛-6⅛pr
Zurich	1.8586-1.8923	1.8774-1.8830	⅜-¼pr	1⅛-1⅛pr

Source: Extel. Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3526-1.3535
Austria	9.80-9.81
Belgium (Com)	28.68-28.71
Canada	1.4072-1.4078
Denmark	5.6108-5.6128
France	4.9425-4.9445
Germany	1.3965-1.3969
Hong Kong	7.7300-7.7310
Ireland	1.6175-1.6180
Italy	1648.00-1651.00
Japan	91.35-91.45
Malaysia	2.5490-2.5510
Netherlands	1.5666-1.5671
Norway	6.2055-6.2075
Portugal	146.35-146.45
Singapore	1.4230-1.4250
Spain	128.26-128.41
Sweden	7.1136-7.1211
Switzerland	1.1653-1.1658

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6249-1.6277
Australia dollar	2.1945-2.1974
Bahrain dinar	0.6085-0.6205
Brazil real*	1.4355-1.4398
Cyprus pound	0.71-0.72
Finland markka	6.9425-7.0585
Greece drachma	360.25-367.25
Hong Kong dollar	12.5628-12.5722
India rupee	51.53-52.49
Kuwait dinar KD	0.475-0.485
Malaysia ringgit	4.1445-4.1490
Mexico peso	n/a
New Zealand dollar	2.5136-2.5163
Pakistan rupee	49.90 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.0650-6.1910
Singapore dollar	2.3152-2.3192
S Africa rand (fin)	6.1167-6.1569
S Africa rand (com)	5.8041-5.8194
U A E dirham	5.925-6.049

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3I	305	Legal & Gn	1,700
ASDA Gp	14,000	Lloyds Bk	1,700
Abbey Natl	2,500	MEPC	1,000
Alld Dom	1,000	Marks Spr	3,100
Argyll Gp	4,900	NatWst Bk	6,900
Arjo Wiggn	1,900	Nat Power	4,500
AB Foods	343	Nth Wst W	672
BAA	3,200	P & O	1,700
BAT Inds	7,700	Pearson	249
BOC	1,100	PowerGen	2,400
BP	7,100	Prudential	1,000
BTR	5,800	RMC	851
BT	9,600	RTZ	4,900
Bk of Scot	1,500	Rank Org	1,400
Barclays	6,300	Reckitt Col	554
Bass	1,900	Redland	1,900
Blue Circle	759	Reed Intl	1,500
Boots	1,600	Rentokil	2,600
Bowater	946	Reuters	4,300
Brit Aero	3,100	Rolls Royce	1,800
Brit Airwys	3,800	Ryl Ins	1,800
Brit Gas	11,000	Ryl Bk Scot	1,900
Brit Steel	7,600	Sainsbury	2,000
Burmah Cstl	203	Schroders	110
Cable Wire	2,000	Scot & New	368
Cadbury	5,900	Scot Power	639
Caradon	1,800	Sears	5,600
Carlton Cms	1,600	Svrn Trent	480
Cm Union	4,100	Shell Trans	4,900
Courtaulds	1,100	Siebe	432
De La Rue	1,700	SmKl Bch	5,000
Eastern Elec	3,600	Smith Nph	2,100
Enterpr Oil	838	Sthern Elec	1,700
Forte	2,900	Std Chartd	7,900
GKN	551	Sun Allnce	4,800
GRE	3,400	TI Gp	722
GUS	1,200	TSB	2,900
Gen Acc	2,600	Tesco	2,600
Gen Elec	3,900	Thames W	691
Glaxo	9,200	Thrn EMI	724
Granada	2,300	Tomkins	2,100
Grand Met	4,000	Unilever	1,300
Guinness	2,400	Utd Bisc	1,400
HSBC	3,500	Vodafone	5,200
Hanson	6,300	Warburg	1,400
ICI	6,700	Wellcome	9,500
Inchcape	4,300	Whitbread	915
Kingfisher	635	Wlms Hld	2,700
Ladbroke	3,700	Wolseley	1,100
Land Secs	1,100	Zeneca	4,700

WALL STREET

	Mar 8 midday	Mar 7 close
AMP Inc	37½	37½
AMR Corp	59¼	60
AT & T	51⅛	51
Abbott Labs	34⅛	34⅛
Advanced Micro	33⅜	33⅛
Aetna Life	53⅜	53⅜
Ahmanson (HF)	17¼	17½
Air Prod & Chem	47¼	47
Albertson's	30⅛	30¼
Alcan Alumnm	23¼	23⅜
Alco Standard	65⅛	65⅛
Allied Signal	37½	37⅜
Alum Co of Am	37¼	37¼
Amax Gold Inc	5¼	5½
Amerada Hess	50⅛	50¼
Amer Brands	37¼	37¼
Amer El Power	32⅛	32¼
Amer Express	32½	32¼
Amer Genl Corp	31	31⅛
Amer Home Pr	72⅛	72½
Amer Intl	101¼	101¼
Amer Stores	24⅛	24½
Ameritech	41	41⅜
Amoco	59¼	59½
Anheuser-Busch	56⅛	56¼
Apple Computer	38⅜	38⅛
Archer Daniels	19⅜	19⅜
Armco	6⅜	6¼
Armstrng Wrld	45¼	46
Asarco	25¼	25¼
Ashland Oil	33	33⅛
Atl Richfield	110⅜	111
Auto Data Pro	61	61⅛
Avery Dennison	36¼	36¼
Avon Products	56	56⅛
Baker Hughes	20	20
Baltim Gas & El	23	22⅜
Banc One	27⅛	27⅛
BankAmerica	46⅛	46½
Bank of NY	31⅛	31⅛
Bankers Tr NY	61⅛	61¼
Barnett Banks	43⅜	43½
Bausch & Lomb	33	32¼
Baxter Intl	31	30⅜
Becton Dickinsn	53⅛	52¼
Bell Atlantic	52½	51¼
BellSouth	57½	57⅛
Black & Decker	26¼	26⅛
Block (H&R)	38¼	38¼
Boeing	45⅜	45⅛
Boise Cascade	31⅛	31
Borden Inc	13	12⅜
Bristol Myrs Sq	61⅛	61⅛
Browning Ferris	31⅛	30⅛
Brunswick	19⅛	19⅛
Burlington Nthn	55⅜	54⅜
CBS	64⅛	64⅛
CNA Financial	71⅜	72
CPC Intl	51⅛	51⅛
CSX	74⅛	74
Campbell Soup	45⅛	45⅛
Can Pacific	13⅛	13⅛
Cptl Cities ABC	87⅛	87⅛
Carolina Pwr	26⅛	26½
Caterpillar	48⅛	48⅜
Central & SW	23⅛	23⅛
Champion Intl	38⅛	39
Chase Manhat	35	35
Chemical Bk	38⅜	38⅜
Chevron Corp	47⅛	47
Chrysler	40⅛	40⅛
Chubb Corp	77⅛	77½
Cigna Corp	74	73⅛
Citicorp	40⅛	41
Clorox	62	61½
Coastal Corp	28⅛	28⅛
Coca Cola	55½	55⅛
Colgate-Palmolive	63⅜	63⅛
Columbia Gas	25⅛	26
Compaq Comp	33⅛	34⅜
Comp Ass Intl	61⅛	61⅛
Conagra	32⅛	32⅛
Conrail	51⅛	51½
Cons Edison	26⅛	26½
Cons Nat Gas	36½	36⅛
Cooper Inds	38⅛	38⅛
Corning Inc	31⅛	31⅛
Crown Cork	42⅛	42⅛
Dana Corp	23⅛	23⅛
Dayton Hudson	69⅛	69⅛
Deere	75⅜	75
Delta Air Lines	55	55⅛
Deluxe Corp	28	28
Detroit Edison	27⅛	27⅛
Digital Equip	32	31⅛
Dillard Dept St	26⅛	26
Disney (Walt)	54⅜	54⅛
Dominion Res	36½	36⅛
Donelley (RR)	34⅛	34⅛
Dover Corp	59⅜	59⅜
Dow Chemical	64⅛	64⅛
Dow Jones	35	34⅛
Dresser	20⅛	20½
Duke Power	37⅛	37⅛
Dun & Bradstreet	52½	52⅜
Du Pont	55⅜	55⅛
Eastman Kodak	50⅜	50⅜
Eaton Corp	49⅛	49⅛
Emerson Elec	64	64⅛
Engelhard Corp	26	26⅛

	Mar 8 midday	Mar 7 close
Enron Corp	33⅛	33⅜
Entergy	21⅛	21⅛
Ethyl Corp	10⅛	10
Exxon	64	64
FMC Corp	58⅛	58⅜
FPL Group	34⅛	34⅛
Federal Express	62⅛	62⅛
Fed Nat Mtge	73⅛	73⅛
First Chicago	48⅛	48⅛
First Interstate	80	79⅜
First Union Rlty	7⅛	7⅛
Fleet Finl Grp	31⅛	31
Fluor Corp	46⅜	46⅛
Ford Motor	25⅜	25⅛
GTE Corp	33	32⅛
Gannett	53⅛	53⅜
Gap Inc Del	31⅛	31
Gen Dynamics	45⅜	45⅛
Gen Electric	53⅛	52⅜
Gen Mills	60⅛	61
Gen Motors	39⅛	39⅜
Gen Reinsurance	124⅛	124⅜
Gen Signal	35⅜	35⅜
Genuine Parts	38⅜	38⅛
Georgia Pac	73⅛	72⅛
Gillette	79⅛	79⅜
Glaxo ADR	21⅜	21⅛
Goodrich (BF)	42⅛	43
Goodyear Tire	35⅛	36
Grace (W&R)	42⅛	42
Grt Atl Pac Tea	19⅛	19⅛
Great Wstn Fin	17⅛	17⅛
Halliburton	38⅜	38⅛
Harcourt General	37	36⅛
Heinz (HJ)	38⅜	37⅛
Hercules	44	44⅛
Hershey Foods	48	48⅜
Hewlett Packard	118⅛	119⅜
Hilton Hotels	67⅛	66⅜
Home Depot	44⅛	44⅛
Homestake Mng	16⅛	17⅛
Honeywell	35⅜	35⅛
Household Intl	43⅛	43
Houston Inds	37⅜	37⅜
Humana	22⅛	23
ITT Corp	96⅛	95⅛
Illinois Tool	44⅜	44⅛
Illinova	22⅛	22⅛
INCO	26⅛	26⅛
Ingersoll Rand	29⅛	28⅛
Inland Steel	27⅛	27⅛
Intel Corp	79⅛	80⅛
IBM	79⅛	79⅛
Intl Flav & Fr	49⅛	49⅜
Intl Paper	71⅜	71⅜
James River Va	23⅛	23⅛
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	57⅜	58⅛
Kellogg	54⅛	54⅛
Kerr-McGee	49⅛	49⅛
Kimberly-Clark	50⅛	50⅜
Kmart	12⅛	12⅜
Knight-Ridder	54⅛	54⅛
Lilly (Eli)	67⅜	67⅜
Limited Inc	18⅛	18⅛
LTV Brdcsng	120⅛	128⅛
Lincoln Nat	40	40⅛
Litton	34⅛	34⅜
Liz Claiborne	15⅛	15⅜
Lockheed	75⅛	75⅛
Louisiana Pac	26⅛	27
MCI Comm	19⅛	19⅜
Marriott Intl	32⅛	32⅛
Marsh & McLnn	81⅛	81⅛
Masco Corp	25⅛	25⅛
May Dept St	34⅛	35
Maytag Corp	15⅛	16
McDonalds	33	32⅜
McDonnell D	56⅜	56⅛
McGraw Hill	69⅛	69⅜
Mead Corp	50⅛	51
Medtronic	62⅛	62
Mellon Bk	37⅛	37⅛
Melville Corp	32	31⅛
Merck Inc	42⅛	42⅛
Merrill Lynch	41⅜	41⅜
Minnesota Mine	54⅛	53⅛
Mobil Corp	88⅛	88⅜
Monsanto	77⅛	77⅛
Morgan (JP)	63⅛	64
Motorola Inc	56⅛	56⅜
Natl Medical	15⅛	15⅜
Natl Semi	17⅛	17⅛
Natl Service Ind	26⅛	26⅛
Navistar Intl	13⅛	13⅛
NBD Bancorp	30⅛	30⅜
NY Times A	20⅛	20⅛
Newmont Mng	39⅛	40⅛
Niag Mohawk	14⅛	14⅛
Nike B	73⅛	73⅛
NL Industries	11⅛	11⅛
Noram Energy	5⅛	5⅜
Nordstrom	38⅛	39⅛
Norfolk Sthrn	64⅛	64⅜
Nthn State Pwr	43⅛	43⅛
Norwest Corp	25⅛	25⅛
Nynex Corp	38⅜	38⅛
Occidental Pet	20⅛	19⅛
Ohio Edison	19⅛	19⅜
Oracle Systems	32⅛	32⅜
Oryx Energy Co	11⅛	11⅛

	Mar 8 midday	Mar 7 close
Owens Corning	33⅜	33⅛
PPG Industries	36⅛	36
PNC Bank	24⅛	24⅜
Paccar Inc	42⅜	42⅛
Pacificorp	18⅜	18⅛
Pac Enterprises	24⅛	24⅛
Pac Gas & Elect	25	24⅜
Pac Telesis	29	29
Pall Corp	19⅛	19⅜
Panhandle East	22⅛	22
Parker Hannifin	44⅛	44⅜
Peco Energy	25⅛	25⅜
Penney (JC)	41⅜	41⅛
Pennzoil	47⅛	47⅛
Pepsico	38⅛	38⅜
Pfizer	84⅜	84⅜
Phelps Dodge	57⅛	57⅜
Philip Morris	62⅛	62⅛
Phillips Pet	35⅛	35
Pitney Bowes	35	35⅛
Polaroid	32⅛	32⅜
PriceCostco	12⅜	12⅜
Procter & Gmbl	65⅛	65⅛
Providian	34⅛	34⅜
Pub Serv E & G	27⅛	27⅛
Quaker Oats	32⅛	32⅜
Ralston Purina	47⅛	47⅜
Raychem Corp	39⅛	39⅜
Raytheon	70⅜	71⅛
Reebok Intl	35⅛	35⅜
Reynolds Metals	48⅜	47⅜
Roadway Srvcs	51⅛	51⅜
Rockwell Intl	38⅛	38⅜
Rohm & Haas	53⅜	53⅜
Royal Dutch	115⅛	115⅜
Rubbermaid	32⅛	32⅜
Safeco Corp	54⅜	55⅛
St Paul's Cos	49	48⅛
Salomon Inc	33⅛	33
Santa Fe Pac	21⅛	12⅛
Sara Lee Corp	25⅜	25⅜
Scecorp	15⅛	15⅜
Schering Plough	78	77⅛
Schlumberger	57⅛	57
Scott Paper	80⅛	80
Seagram	30⅛	29⅜
Sears Roebuck	49⅛	49⅜
Shell Trans	68⅛	68⅜
Sherwin Wllms	33⅜	33⅛
Skyline Corp	19⅜	18⅜
Snap-On-Tools	33⅛	33⅜
Southern Co	19⅛	19⅜
Stnwestern Bell	40	39⅜
Sprint Corp	28⅛	28⅜
Stanley Works	39⅜	39⅜
Sun Company	29	28⅜
Sun Microsys	31⅛	32
Suntrust	52⅜	52⅜
Supervalu	26⅜	26⅜
Sysco Corp	28⅛	28⅜
TRW Inc	64⅜	64⅜
TCC Inds	2⅛	2⅜
Tandem Comp	16⅛	16⅜
Tandy Corp	44⅛	44⅜
Teledyne	22⅛	22⅜
Temple Inland	46	46⅜
Tenneco	44⅛	44⅜
Texaco	64⅛	64⅜
Texas Inst	85⅛	86⅜
Texas Utilities	31⅛	31⅜
Textron	53⅛	53⅜
Time Warner	37⅛	37⅜
Times-Mirror A	17⅛	17⅜
Timken	39⅛	39⅜
Torchmark	40⅛	41⅜
Toys R Us	24⅛	26⅜
Transamerica	54	54
Travelers	37	36⅜
Tribune	54⅛	54⅜
Tyco Labs	52⅛	52⅜
UST Inc	28⅛	28⅜
UAL	92	92⅜
USX Marathon	17⅛	17
Unicom	24⅛	24⅜
Unilever NY	125⅛	126⅜
Union Camp	48⅛	48⅜
Union Carbide	27⅛	27⅜
Union Pacific	51⅛	50⅜
Unisys Corp	9⅛	9⅜
USAIR Group	6	6
USF&G Corp	13⅛	13⅜
US Life	38⅛	37
US West	38⅛	38⅜
United Tech	65⅛	66
Unocal Corp	27⅛	27⅜
Upjohn	34⅛	34⅜
VF Corp	50⅛	50⅜
WMX Tech	28⅛	28⅜
Wal-Mart Stores	24⅛	24⅜
Warner-Lambert	75⅛	75⅜
Wells Fargo	156⅛	158⅜
Westinghouse El	14⅛	14⅜
Weyerhaeuser	38⅛	38⅜
Whirlpool	51⅛	52
Whitman	17⅛	17⅜
Winn Dixie	55⅛	55⅜
Woolworth	15⅛	15⅜
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	44	44
Xerox	110⅛	110⅜
Yellow Corp	19	19⅜

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES

CITY DIARY

Ringside seat to see Tiny

PEOPLE queue round the block for the Harrods sale. They sleep in the streets for tickets to the Last Night of the Proms. But at the Barbican Hall on March 24, it promises to be seating room only when Lonrho holds its 86th annual meeting. Tiny Rowland, ousted last week as a Lonrho director and employee, tells me he has every intention of being there, even though for the first time in 34 years he will not be on the podium. For Sir John Leahy, for whom this will be his first meeting as chairman, the agm could be a diplomatic nightmare. Tiny says: "I do own almost 50 milliom shares. And I will be there." If he speaks, Lonrho's meeting could be explosive. But for the outbreak of war between Tiny and "corporate son" Dieter Bock, Tiny would have been "lifted", in the fashion of a new Mr Speaker at the House of Commons, into a chair marked Life President on March 24. Lonrho is now having to send out proxy cards asking shareholders to vote against the resolution proposing Tiny for president. Tiny, in turn, is issuing a circular to Lonrho shareholders — and says they should reserve their vote until they have read his side of the story. It should be a gripping read. Do get to the agm early. The Barbican seats only 2,026, and management insists standing is not allowed.

Braining them

IF you are tired of those brainy kids at BZW, and want to knock them off their perch, your chance comes on May 22. Then Bacup, the national charity devoted to cancer sufferers, is staging its fourth Ultimate City Quiz and Challenge at The Brewery. To date, 35 teams have entered, with two specific purposes: to raise money for Bacup and, secondly, to deny BZW winning for the third year running. The event, sponsored by Midland Bank and Reuters, and hosted by Peter Snow, the BBC newscaster, aims to raise £30,000. There are still places left.



Sir Derek: space-saver

RTZ exercise

RTZ, under the leadership of Sir Derek Birkin as chairman and Robert Wilson as chief executive, is a master at cost-cutting — even to the exent that an up-the-stairs auditorium at its St James's Square head office has recently been converted into a gymnasium to maximise space. The conversion led one insider to sigh: "Oh, Sir Derek. Not another treadmill for us."

Sorry, dad

MERCURY Asset Management yesterday learnt the salutary lesson that you should always honour your parents. No sooner had the *Financial Times* appeared with a story under the heading "MAM urges its parent Warburg to seek partner" and which contained the quote, "What we want is a parent who is strong and financially solid. And Warburg isn't that any more", when all MAM's phones went dead. MAM folk swear it was all to do with Warburgs. Sorry, dad.

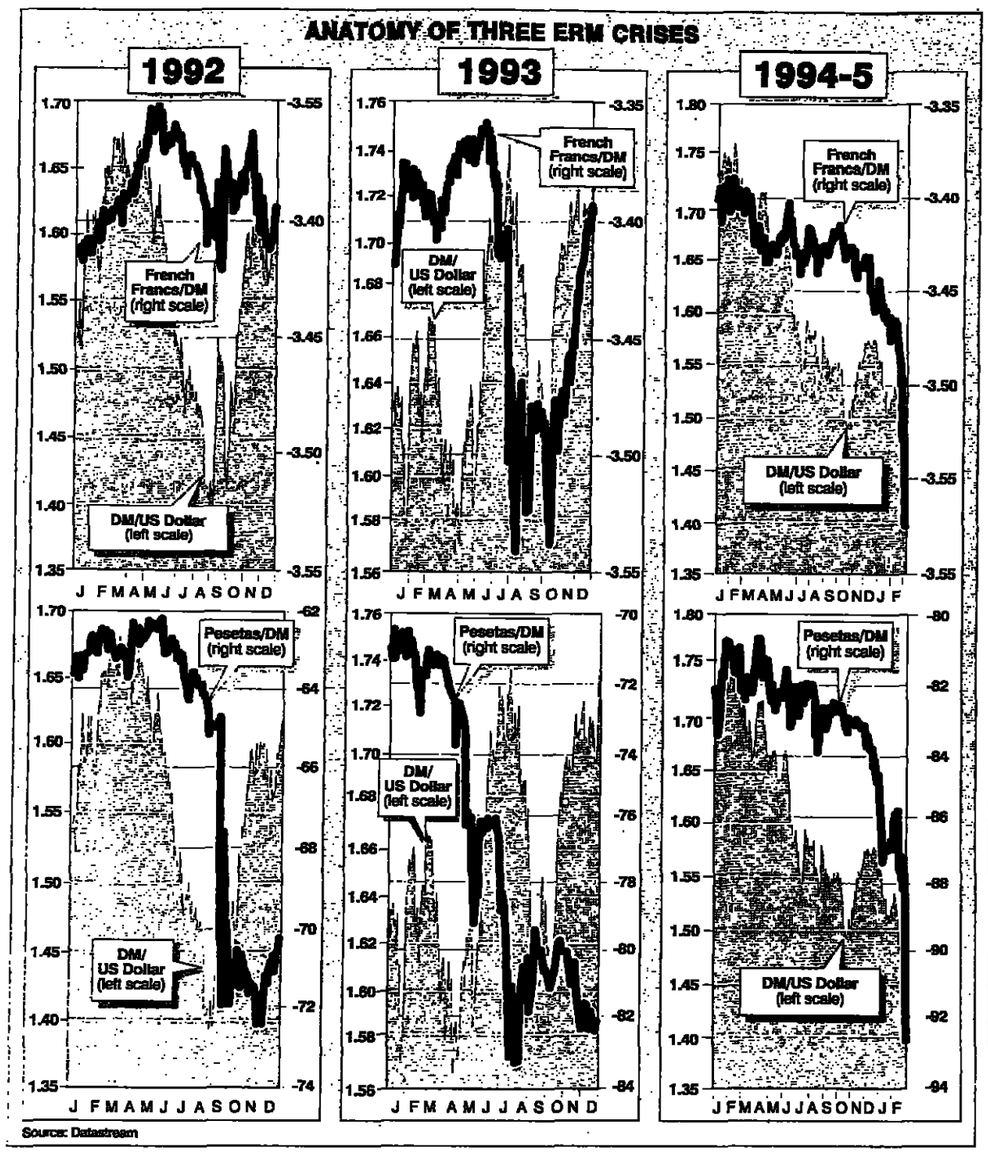
COLIN CAMPBELL

ECONOMIC VIEW — ANATOLE KALETSKY



Day of the dollar bull and EMU opponents is nigh

Whatever you read, the downtrend in the dollar is almost over and the mark and yen are riding for a fall



It is unwise to stand in the way of a speeding locomotive, but it is also unwise to jump on a bandwagon hurtling towards a cliff. The only safe response to the current worldwide lunacy in the foreign exchange markets is to keep out of the way. Those of a speculative disposition, however, may want to start getting ready to pick up some valuable financial wreckage from the accident that is waiting to happen in the foreign exchanges.

Regular readers of this column have probably had their fill of the reasons I have been presenting since December for my newfound belief that the 20-year downtrend in the dollar is almost over and that the mark and yen are riding for a fall. However, as a service to new readers I must briefly repeat them — and point out that, for three months, I have been consistently wrong.

There are four essential components to my thesis. Firstly, American companies are now far more competitive than their rivals in Germany and Japan, implying that the US trade deficit is about to turn. Secondly, American financial assets now offer better value than investments in Asia, Europe and emerging (or submerging) markets. Thirdly, American investors are about to wake up to this value and stop wasting their money on "global diversification". Fourthly, a weak dollar is no longer in America's national interest and will therefore be resisted by the G7.

I presented these arguments on December 15, but contrary to my prediction, the dollar has not risen. Instead, it has fallen by a further 12 per cent against the mark. This suggests one of two interpretations — either I am all wrong or I am 12 per cent more right than I was three months ago.

I stick to the latter interpretation — which is probably what Nick Leeson said when he asked Barings for another $100 million margin call. Fortunately, the *The Times* costs 20p, and not $27 billion, so I can afford to be stubborn and stick to a longer-term perspective, even in defiance of market trends. In terms of the economic fundamentals, a crucial new element has entered the global currency equation. This is the strong possibility of a final breakdown in the European exchange-rate mechanism. This will be a much more important long-term influence on the markets than anything to do with shifts in US monetary policy, defaults in Mexico or earthquakes in Japan.

Before turning to Europe, however, a few remarks about short-term market trends may be in order, since this is one of those times when speculative frenzy can make fundamental economics seem completely absurd. That the run on the mark and yen has now turned into a classic speculative bubble can hardly be disputed. Strong currencies are generally more prone to speculative overshooting than weak ones and therefore, as I said last week, it seems quite appropriate to describe current speculation in Germany and Japan as a "run". One of the main conditions for the last phase of a speculative bubble finally fell into place yesterday, when the Reuters foreign exchange service reported the following remark from an anonymous trader: "When you are told by your cab driver to go long marks and yen, you start to suspect that there is no end to this trend in sight."

In reality, of course, this trader was exactly wrong. Once you hear an investment recommendation from a cab driver, preferably seconded by a dentist, you know that a trend is just about over. There are few more reliable signs that a speculative bubble has been inflated to bursting-point.

In spite of such encouraging signs, however, it is still probably too early to defy market sentiment and start buying dollars and selling every financial instrument qualified by the adjective "German". To confirm the end of the dollar's long bear market, may require one of two conditions. There could be a cover-story in *Time* or *Newsweek*, illustrated by a cartoon of a mangled dollar-sign and headlined "Mashed by the Mighty Mark". Alternatively, there might be a more fundamental signal — which brings us back to Europe.

The best possible inidicator of reason returning to the foreign exchanges would be a complete breakup of the ERM and abandonment of the link between the French franc and the German mark. Until this happens, German industry will continue to be artificially insulated from the consequences of an overvalued currency by the self-mutilation of France and other ERM countries. By artificially supporting a *franc fort* that is even more overvalued than the mark, France has deliberately undermined the competitiveness of its industries and created mass unemployment.

> **Abandonment of the link between the franc and the mark would represent a return to reason**

The ERM has ensured that Germany's most important export to France and the rest of Europe has not been cars or machine tools, but unemployment.

Had floating currencies existed in Europe, they would have prevented Germany from exporting the unemployment created by an overvalued mark-dollar exchange rate. Had Germany been unable to share an overvalued currency with its European partners, the mark might have risen even further and faster against the dollar in the short-term. But in the long term, political pressure and economic deflation would have forced on the Bundesbank a much earlier and more decisive monetary easing.

Now that the ERM is again in deep crisis — for the third time in three years — the conditions for such a monetary reversal are gradually falling into place. This week's devaluation in Spain was clearly not big enough to satisfy the markets, or Spain's domestic requirement for strong export-led growth. The economics minister publicly said that his Government had asked for a 10 to 12 per cent devaluation, instead of the 7 per cent that was agreed. The clear implication is that the Spanish peseta and Portuguese escudo will continue to be dogged by speculation and will soon have to devalue again or leave the ERM.

The Spanish and Portuguese devaluations, combined with the even steeper plunge of the Italian lira, as well as the separate declines of the dollar and pound, will add to competitive pressure on French industry and agriculture and further undermine the willingness of France to remain Germany's monetary satellite. More importantly, the devaluation of the peseta will offer a clear precedent or "road map", not only for speculators but also for French businessmen and savers sceptical about their Government's ability to defend the *franc fort*. For Spain's experience has demonstrated that the enlarged 15 per cent ERM bands, created after the ERM crisis in 1993, were indeed what the sceptics had insisted: a financially meaningless diplomatic fig leaf to disguise the effective abandonment of mutual support among the European finance ministries and central banks. Of course, the French Government will insist that its relations with Germany are in a different category from those of Spain.

The reality, however, is that the Bundesbank refused to support the franc when it crashed through its ERM bands in 1993, and is even less likely to support it today, whether the franc merely declines within its 15 per cent bands or threatens to fall out of the system altogether.

The fact is that the Bundesbank and the German public are weary of the constant crises in the ERM and are even more fed up with the strident demands from France, Spain and other Mediterranean countries for full monetary union. The German Parliament may have ratified the Maastricht treaty, but Germany's heart was never in this process. And Germany is even more sceptical today about EMU, as it concentrates on economic opportunities and political challenges in the east and the north.

It is this German scepticism, rather than the French presidential election, that constitutes the real threat to Maastricht and the French hope of moving towards EMU. If this is true, then it scarcely matters who is elected president in May: Without German support, the *franc fort* will prove unsustainable regardless.

Once the franc falls, the first market reaction may be a further "flight to safety" into the mark. But, without the ERM link to fall back on, a further revaluation of the mark would become unacceptable to German industry and probably even to the Bundesbank. Currencies around the world would finally move back towards the economic fundamentals.

For opponents of monetary union and bulls of the dollar, this third crisis in the ERM may be a case of third time lucky.

Calm action avoids fallout from Barings

Neil Bennett meets Richard Hu, Singapore's Finance Minister

Sitting in his office with its sweeping view of Singapore harbour and the Indonesian islands, Richard Hu, the Singaporean Finance Minister, has good reason to be pleased with his past week's work.

He has successfully protected his country's financial markets from any fallout from the collapse of Barings and ensured that the Singapore International Monetary Exchange (Simex) has remained solvent and unshaken in spite of losing one of its most active members. All this while delivering his annual budget with its usual package of incentives and tax concessions.

His relaxed manner does not do justice to the very real threat that Singapore faced in the Barings collapse. Unless the affair had been efficiently contained, it could have led to a crisis of confidence on the Simex, setting back the young market's growth by years.

Ten days on, however, and Baring Futures has effectively been removed from Singapore's financial map. All its futures contracts have been closed, using the collateral it placed with the exchange, and it is now expected to be wound down and closed by its judicial managers. Dr Hu now says that the threat of any damage was slight. "Barings has an illustrious name, but it was not a commercial clearing bank. The loss of £1 billion is not small change, but it is not disastrous for the financial markets."

> **A bank failure would be disastrous for Singapore**

In spite of his calm, he is clearly displeased that Barings's affairs were allowed to get so out of hand and is adamant that such a case could not happen to a Singaporean bank. "We follow our own regulatory procedure. Regular inspections by the Monetary Authority of Singapore look at the internal controls of the banks. Any difficulties are put down on paper and the banks have to report back. If they do not, they are fined and disciplined."

Dr Hu says that the regulation of Simex was not so strict because it did not involve private deposits. "Baring Futures was not a bank it was a futures trader. Futures trading does not involve public money at risk.

"Regulation must not come at the expense of the strength of the industry. You cannot legislate against foolish actions, but one tries to contain the damage."

While Dr Hu is undeniably displeased that Barings's regulators failed to correct the lack of internal controls in the bank, he is pragmatic about the Bank of England's failure to construct a rescue package. "You cannot expect every bank to be rescued. If you have very poor management any bank can fail. Rescue is a difficult question for any regulator because you always have the question of moral hazard for other institutions."

Now, however, the Singaporean Government has passed a new Futures Trading Bill, which will require all dealers to be licensed every year. The timing of the Bill, says Dr Hu, is entirely coincidental, since it was first published last year. It was originally intended to protect the market from being misused by drug money launderers and its arrival now is fortuitous.

Singapore has a reputation for regulating its banks heavily. The Development Bank of Singapore is one of the most strongly capitalised banks in the world, yet it has been extremely reluctant to expand overseas, but Dr Hu says that the country's regulation is not excessive.

"Singapore-owned banks have always been conservative. A bank failure would be disastrous for us. We do not have the tradition of the City of London to fall back on. We are a vulnerable species and cannot afford to make a mistake when we are so small."

This last point is a cornerstone of government financial policy. There is no deposit protection scheme involved so regulatory capital requirements are 50 per cent higher than the internationally accepted minimum. Dr Hu and his colleagues take the future of Singapore's financial services very seriously, which is why they have made the Barings affair such a priority. Financial services are Singapore's third-largest industry, accounting for 14 per cent of GDP. As the whole of the surrounding region grows, Singapore's banks are well placed to take advantage.

Financial services are a priority industry as the country tries to find new areas of growth. Singapore is quite simply running out of space on its 20-mile island and basic industries consume a lot of land without generating much wealth. Financial services by comparison can earn billions of dollars from a tiny financial district.

With Singapore's growth rate running at an unsustainable 10 per cent it means that the country cannot do without the heavy contingent of foreign banks that are transacting an increasing amount of business here.

When the directors of ING arrive to start merging Barings's operations into their own they are therefore likely to receive a warm welcome from Dr Hu.



Hu: handled crisis

BUSINESS LETTER

Shrink the 'four times salary' ruling to help revolutionise boardroom share options

From Mr James Cane

Sir, Pennington (February 24) is unduly harsh on the share option. The principle behind share options is one that most people would support. It is the practice that is deficient, and has produced the unfair rewards so often publicised in the past. Three simple changes would revolutionise the position:

1. The "four times rule" (which is an Inland Revenue requirement) should be changed so that no-one can receive options worth more than, say, twice basic salary during any period of 12 months. This would put a stop to "excessive" gains arising from lucky share price timing on large numbers of options.

2. Any options granted over an initial value of, say, £100,000 should have to be part-paid. At least 25 per cent of the grant price would be paid at the time of grant. This change would introduce the risk of losing money into what has previously been a one-way bet (your words).

3. The maximum holding of options should be increased from four times total remuneration to, say, eight time salary. This would allow more regular grants, but not put executives under pressure to cash in options so as to receive more than, say, twice (as it appears Mick Newmarch did). Such a change would also improve employee retention by spreading the period of gain.

It would be a pity to lose the benefits of simplicity inherent in the relationship of the option to the market price of the shares. Some of the schemes recently introduced are too complicated to be easily understood (or quantified) by shareholders, or participants. That will present its own problems later.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES CANE,

Greenly's,
39, Thames Street,
Windsor, Berks.

Letters to the Business and Finance section of The Times can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5112.

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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 01895 259 783				
Grolund Amer	154.80	163.80	- 2.10	0.28
Grolund Equity	222.30	236.50	- 0.50	2.13
Grolund Euro	193.00	204.20	- 0.80	0.59
Grolund Expt Bnd	107.10	111.00	- 2.30	2.70
Grolund Gilt	71.80	73.81	- 0.91	5.72
Grolund Japan	152.70	161.60	+ 0.19	..
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS 01203 553 231				
General Acc	504.40	538.60	- 1.30	3.06
General Inc	444.80	473.20	- 1.00	3.06
UK Growth Acc	339.40	361.10	- 1.30	3.12
UK Growth Inc	232.20	247.10	- 0.88	3.12
Higher Inc Acc	632.58	672.90	- 4.00	4.32
Higher Inc Inc	365.60	389.00	- 2.20	4.32
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	182.50	192.70†	- 0.60	6.12
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	88.49	91.38†	- 0.28	6.12
Nth America	253.40	269.60	- 4.40	..
Far East	314.70	334.80	- 4.10	0.38
Europe	264.10	281.00	- 2.00	0.91
Brit Excell	67.51	71.82	- 0.28	3.32
Brit Fndmtls Acc	96.35	102.50	- 0.70	5.00
Brit Fndmtls Inc	70.65	75.16	- 0.50	5.00
Global Opps	78.78	83.81	- 0.74	0.43
Balanced Acc	51.12	54.39	- 0.27	3.29
Balanced Inc	49.88	53.07	- 0.25	3.29
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS 0345 717 373				
High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Inc	124.00	131.50†	- 1.20	8.11
High Inc Equity	150.30	160.70	- 1.40	4.90
Worldwide Bond	262.40	278.70†	+ 0.80	5.45
Capital Growth				
American Growth	266.70	284.20	- 4.20	.84
Asian Pacific	278.40	296.20	- 6.20	..
Assets & Earnings	242.30	257.80	- 1.60	3.11
Comdty & Energy	92.02	97.89†	+ 1.02	.13
Euro Capital Inc	127.10	135.90	- 0.10	.71
(Accum Units)	135.80	145.20	- 0.10	.71
General	214.40	228.10†	- 1.90	2.38
Japan	110.90	118.60	+ 0.20	..
Masterinvest	130.10	139.10	- 0.60	1.88
UK Growth Dist	109.80	117.40	- 0.40	3.10
US Emerging Cos	128.20	136.00	- 2.10	..
Income & Growth	358.60	381.50	- 2.78	3.28
Ethical	83.75	87.90	- 0.19	3.19
International	103.80	110.40	- 0.90	1.05
Dividend & Growth	56.14	59.72	- 0.37	4.71
Global Grth & Sec	66.37	70.77	- 0.06	2.56
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	£16.00	£16.66	.	.
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	41.55	43.13	- 0.83	0.72
Cash	50.05	50.05†	.	5.84
Emerging Mkts	58.98	62.58	- 1.07	0.06
European	105.70	110.50†	- 1.10	...
Exempt	904.20	974.20	- 4.00	1.91
Extra Income #	43.37	48.49†	- 0.41	8.48
Far East Emg Eco	102.40	108.60	- 1.70	0.58
Fixed Interest #	21.82	22.91†	- 0.15	9.83
Fund Inv Tst	154.80	162.80	- 1.70	1.03
Japan	162.00	169.70	- 0.50	..
Latin American	38.50	40.41	- 1.56	1.20
Pacific	84.86	88.30	- 0.82	0.39
Property Share	59.36	62.31	- 0.31	2.19
UK Emerging Cos	59.36	62.31	- 0.16	1.99
UK Growth	41.01	43.60	- 0.16	2.69
Aber World Port #	67.12	68.28	- 0.56	2.40
Ethical	58.98	61.91	- 0.31	2.84
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	48.33	48.33†	- 0.19	7.76
AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0131 549 3282				
British Growth	84.64	88.77†	- 0.45	3.00
British Income	75.45	80.35†	- 0.38	3.79
Select Portfolio	79.11	84.16†	+ 0.36	
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD 01452 305 958				
Amity Income	70.02	74.29†	- 0.40	2.62
Income Builder Inc	63.19	67.22	- 0.41	3.09
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Clint dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	213.80	228.50	+ 0.30	3.41
Capital	374.70	400.50	..	2.06
Balanced	625.90	669.00†	+ 1.40	2.97
Accumulator	£11.58	£12.37	+ 2.00	3.28
Income Trusts				
American Income	45.49	48.62†	- 0.03	3.66
High Income	359.80	384.80†	+ 0.80	4.01
Equity Income	205.20	219.30	+ 0.50	3.80
High Yield	221.60	236.80	+ 0.80	3.67
Govt Securities	32.35	34.16†	+ 0.12	6.21
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	137.90	147.40	- 1.60	0.47
European Growth	32.47	34.62	- 0.04	0.01
International	145.70	155.70†	- 0.60	0.21
Japan	186.20	198.40†	- 0.80	0.01
Pacific	342.80	368.40	- 3.30	0.01
Secs of America	401.90	427.60†	- 2.32	0.54
Wwide Asset Val	43.97	47.00	- 0.43	0.26
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	480.10	513.20†	+ 1.70	2.49
Conv & Gilt	40.06	42.82†	- 0.05	5.42
Smaller Cos	156.60	167.40	- 0.60	1.33
2nd Smaller Cos	148.70	158.90†	- 0.40	1.53
Recovery	126.10	135.40	- 0.10	1.94
Met Min & Cdty	135.30	144.60	+ 1.80	0.82
Oseas Earnings	322.20	344.40†	+ 1.40	1.96
Technology	152.90	163.40	- 1.80	0.01
UK Special Sits	417.00	445.70†	- 0.10	1.94
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01293 526 911				
Cnsrctn Ovr Pens	94.86	98.55	..	3.04
Fndrdtn Pens Pens	59.57	61.89	.	.
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 600 0033				
Capital	66.28	70.51	- 0.39	1.99
International	58.32	62.04	- 2.29	
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD 0131 222 4242				
America	256.70	275.80	- 4.40	
Bond	106.80	112.50	- 1.10	7.40
Bdr Smlr Cos	91.93	97.80	- 0.32	1.32
Conv & Gen #	61.09	64.99†	- 0.26	6.06
Europe	210.70	224.30	- 0.80	0.62
Euro Smlr Cos	94.93	101.40	.	0.61
Income Grwth	315.00	335.10†	- 1.50	4.73
Japan	284.40	301.80	- 1.60	
Latin American	49.02	52.15	- 3.18	
Pacific	93.09	99.03	- 1.67	1.58
UK Smlr Cos	49.72	52.89	- 0.16	1.44
Japan Fd	636.70	655.90†	+ 0.40	..
Mngd Fd	160.90	171.10	- 0.30	3.30
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD 0171 489 8673				
Brit & Oseas	261.40	275.20	.	1.35
Capital Grwth	182.00	197.40	..	2.50
Wwide Oppc	164.90	173.60	.	0.46
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD 0181 534 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Bst Inv Fd Inc	316.40	329.60	- 2.0	3.31
European Bd Inc	86.75	89.85	- 0.14	7.97
Exempt	68.31	72.86	- 0.28	4.58
Financial	68.79	73.57	- 0.08	3.05
500.0	408.00	436.30†	- 1.80	2.77
General	252.20	270.30	- 1.60	2.99
Property	243.20	264.30	..	6.57
Trustee	165.60	177.00	- 1.10	2.70
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.70	100.70	..	5.63
Extra Income	109.50	117.10	- 0.90	4.44
Gilt & Fxd Int	54.98	56.70†	- 0.47	9.09
Income	474.90	507.80†	- 3.30	4.50
Income Builder	56.97	60.61†	- 0.51	5.38
Intl Income	56.88	60.51	- 0.53	4.08
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	107.80	114.80†	- 0.80	2.72
Leisure	111.60	119.30	- 0.89	1.73
Recovery	380.80	407.00	- 1.90	3.09
Smlr Cos Inc	40.98	43.96	- 0.08	2.15
Special Sits	259.20	277.30	- 2.20	1.80
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	117.90	125.10	- 1.80	0.89
Aust Acc	217.80	231.50	- 2.10	2.44
Aust Inc	133.60	142.40	- 1.30	2.44
Euro Grth Inc	140.30	148.50	- 0.40	1.04
(Accum Units)	150.20	159.40	- 0.30	1.04
Japan & Gen Inc	159.30	168.70†	+ 2.10	..
(Accum Units)	161.20	170.70	+ 2.20	..
Japan Spec Sits	73.32	77.67	+ 0.66	..
Univ Tech Inc	73.36	77.96	- 0.36	0.08
Worldwide	152.60	162.00	- 0.78	1.04
BARING FD MGRS LTD (DEALING SUSPENDED) 0171 214 1004				
American Growth	85.45	90.62	- 1.72	..
Amer Smlr Cos	120.50	129.60	- 3.00	..
Convertibles	51.84	56.14	- 0.38	5.70
Eastern	234.30	253.90	- 7.00	0.30
Equity Income	80.71	86.93†	- 0.83	4.90
European Growth	282.10	299.30	- 3.30	0.80
Europe	210.90	224.40	- 1.30	0.20
German Growth	72.43	76.83	- 0.89	0.50
Global Bond	60.77	64.02	- 0.19	6.20
Global Growth	114.00	121.60	- 1.30	
Japan Growth	180.60	192.90	- 2.00	.
Japan Smaller	153.70	163.70	- 0.80	.
Korea Trust	71.03	78.02	- 0.76	.
Portfolio	119.10	127.60†	- 0.70	1.80
(Accum Units)	219.10	234.90	- 1.20	1.80
UK Growth	78.54	82.08	- 0.49	2.20
UK Smaller Cos	75.88	82.74	- 0.38	1.80
Select Managers	68.79	73.69	- 0.49	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD 0171 250 3300				
Intl Grth Port Inc	68.66	73.04†	.	.
Special Opps Inc	47.76	50.61†	...	..
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD 0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	97.24	102.80	- 0.50	1.97
(Accum Units)	109.31	115.67	- 0.56	1.97
Smaller Cos	94.02	99.49	- 0.50	1.28
Higher Yield #	41.26	43.66	- 0.31	4.76
American Gth Inc	67.22	71.13†	- 0.56	..
European Growth	123.85	131.06†	- 1.65	..
(Accum Units)	126.29	133.64	- 1.88	..
Global Bond Inc #	25.79	26.73	- 0.15	8.29
Mngd Pfolio Inc	38.51	40.73	- 0.25	1.54
(Accum Units)	39.05	41.31	- 0.25	1.54
Intl Spec Opps	103.86	109.90	- 6.41	
Pacific Grth	111.75	118.25	- 0.86	.
Formerly LAS				
UK General #	68.60	72.60	- 0.39	3.73
(Accum Units) #	70.25	74.34	- 0.40	3.73
Japan	56.10	59.38†	+ 0.39	..
Gilt & Fixed Int #	91.74	93.62†	- 0.80	7.89
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	81.52	82.33†	- 0.41	6.56
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0161 832 5060				
Environ	144.20	153.50	- 0.80	1.87
UK Growth	153.50	163.30†	- 1.00	2.60
UK Income	123.90	131.90	- 0.90	4.73
CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01707 651 122				
Can Gen Dist	169.80	179.80†	- 1.20	2.20
-do- Income Dist	101.50	107.60	- 0.70	4.65
(Accum Units)	306.30	324.60	- 2.30	4.65
Gilt & Fxd Int	38.14	40.43†	- 0.22	6.73
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD 0161 236 5685 Enq 0161 236 5685 Dlg 0161 236 5362				
American & Gen	140.60	149.60	- 2.70	
European Inc	73.13	77.62	- 0.64	0.59
Smaller Cos (4-1)	74.97	79.78†	- 0.12	2.23
Growth	386.80	411.50†	+ 0.90	2.75
Income & Growth	370.50	394.20†	- 1.30	4.35
(Accum Units)	529.60	562.40	- 1.90	4.35
Japan & Gen	65.10	69.09†	- 0.20	..
Master Portfolio	£93.67	£97.21	- 60.00	2.28
(Accum Units)	£111.75	£116.97	- 81.00	2.28
Special Sits	88.67	94.33	- 0.45	2.69
High Yield	£11.97	£12.45	- 5.00	4.81
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	77.44	82.63	- 0.07	2.84
American Portfolio	88.80	92.26	+ 0.06	1.27
European Portfolio	90.53	96.47	- 0.44	0.83
Japanese Portfolio	59.68	63.26†	+ 0.86	..
Pacific Portfolio	122.16	131.36	- 1.73	0.98
UK Inc & Growth	70.47	75.63	- 0.19	3.46
Utility & Bond	51.02	51.64	- 0.73	7.06

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG 0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	638.50	638.60	+ 5.15	4.87
Fxd Int Sec	145.85	146.00	- 2.20	9.83
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0171 332 5000				
UK General Tst	58.26	61.97	- 0.10	3.21
COIF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD 0171 588 1815				
Inc	625.05	625.22	- 1.30	4.97
Accum	£26.90	£26.98	+ 47.80	...
Fixed Int Inc	119.00	119.18	- 1.26	9.73
Fixed Int Acc	187.15	187.60	- 0.35	.
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD 0171 637 7667				
Intl Growth	104.12	113.50		..
UK Income	101.26	109.61		5.47
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD 0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	72.71	77.23	- 3.27	1.57
Beck Bio-Tech	26.17	29.03		
Acorn Ethical Tst	144.02	151.60	.	0.74
City Fin Assets	63.11	67.14	.	1.34
City Fin America	79.93	84.14	- 4.14	
City Fin Intl	68.73	72.35	- 1.93	1.0
City Fin Japan	147.95	155.74	+ 8.55	
Friars Hse Cap	259.82	280.98	..	1.75
Friars Hse Inc	182.92	198.86	..	4.24
Buckley Wrld Grth	111.25	118.35†	- 4.81	0.10
Fairmont Cap Gth	127.0	135.11	.	.
Fairmount Intl	139.06	147.94	..	..
City Fin Pflio Inc	51.09	54.35		4.43
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	48.15	51.09	- 0.82	..
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD 0800 373 393				
American Grth	53.69	57.42	- 1.18	...
Atlas Mngd Grth	33.43	35.75	- 0.34	0.53
Dragon Growth	58.48	62.55	- 1.75	0.65
Equity High Inc	75.43	80.24†	- 0.39	4.40
(Accum Units)	102.21	108.73	- 0.53	4.40
European Grth	48.00	51.06	- 0.44	1.05
Evergreen	25.77	27.56	- 0.53	..
General Equity	77.21	81.92	- 0.15	3.09
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	23.74	24.95	- 0.09	8.32
Japan Growth	48.94	52.20	- 0.09	..
Pedigree Grth	46.71	49.89	- 0.07	2.93
Pacf Sm Cos Inc	28.21	30.91	- 0.13	1.46
(Accum Units)	29.31	31.16	- 0.14	1.48
Retirement Inc #	23.64	25.15	- 0.11	6.34
Special Sits	34.92	37.15	- 0.20	2.19
UK & Overseas	43.79	46.58	- 0.45	1.51
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD 01634 890 000				
Capital	63.04	66.82†	- 0.14	2.38
Income	56.84	60.38†	- 0.25	4.37
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD 0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	145.91	155.22	- 0.70	6.16
Fixed & Convertible	37.97	40.39	- 0.16	7.61
Monthly Inc Plus	45.65	48.78	- 0.25	9.19
Preference Share	44.89	47.76	- 0.10	7.73
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	112.36	119.53	- 0.52	7.80
Managed Fund	62.88	66.89	- 0.56	3.15
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	35.68	37.94	- 0.21	1.79
(Accum Units)	40.80	43.40	- 0.25	1.70
UK & General	72.27	76.88	- 0.18	2.86
(Accum Units)	90.45	96.22	- 0.22	2.86
UK Growth	131.04	139.40	- 0.29	2.45
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	177.08	188.38	- 1.21	0.26
Far Eastern Grth	114.02	121.30	- 2.29	
Global Bond	75.04	79.75	- 0.43	6.35
Japan Growth	109.42	116.40	- 0.90	.
North Amer Grth	158.57	166.56	- 3.56	.
Oriental Growth	66.30	70.53	- 1.78	..
Worldwide Growth	59.69	63.50	- 0.88	0.08
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	93.13	93.13	+ 0.01	5.97
Homemaker Fund	72.08	76.68†	- 0.32	1.97
Dolfer Fund	116.33	123.76†	- 0.26	2.61
CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD 01438 744 840				
Growth Inc	53.56	56.97†	- 0.06	3.40
(Accum Units)	57.99	61.69	- 0.06	3.40
High Income	31.53	33.54	- 0.07	5.80
Japan	33.09	35.20	- 0.07	..
Smaller Cos Inc	28.22	30.02	- 0.09	2.80
Smaller Cos	29.89	31.79	- 0.09	2.80
North American	30.37	32.30	- 0.56	0.70
European	34.98	37.21	- 0.38	0.80
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	28.71	30.83†	.	3.60
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD 0800 526 358				
Growth	131.30	139.70	- 1.90	2.21
Income	62.49	66.48†	+ 0.12	5.38
European	57.75	61.44	- 0.11	0.99
Recovery	144.30	153.68	- 0.52	2.38
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD 0171 253 9494				
Equity Dist	763.80	776.90	..	3.86
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD 01277 690 370				
Fellowship Tst	68.89	73.28	- 0.25	1.35
Income #	220.40	234.40	- 0.20	4.96
(Accum Units) #	542.60	577.20	- 0.70	4.96
Smaller Cos	148.10	157.50	- 0.60	0.62
(Accum Units)	181.10	192.60	- 0.60	0.62
Inv Portfolio	72.46	77.08	- 0.41	1.55
High Inc Port #	63.25	67.28	- 0.44	5.16
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD 0171 410 0177				
Euro Small Cos	£15.02	£15.38		
Japan Small Cos	£11.20	£11.42		
UK Small Cos	£16.83	£17.37		
US Small Cos	£15.56	£16.08		
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS 0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	189.40	199.40		3.15
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0131 315 2500				
European Grwth	260.60	275.70	- 2.10	1.01
New Asia	186.40	198.90	- 3.60	0.17
Japan Growth	109.30	116.50	- 0.60	
Jap Smllr Co	440.80	468.60	- 3.50	
Nth Amer	249.00	263.80	+ 0.30	0.80
Shlfrd Asia Pac Mt	105.60	111.80	- 1.90	0.40
UK Inc & Grth	195.50	208.50	+ 0.20	3.19
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD 01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	128.40	136.60	- 0.50	1.96
UK High Inc Inc	137.80	146.60	- 0.70	4.91
(Accum Units)	176.50	187.80	- 0.90	4.91
UK Prf & F I Inc	55.11	58.50	- 0.76	5.47
Brwmnrd Opps	78.45	83.48	- 0.32	1.12
UK Smlr Cos #	47.16	50.17	+ 0.06	..
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0345 090 526				
American	114.70	121.80	- 1.20	1.44
Convertibles #	19.03	20.22	- 0.02	6.92
Equity Income #	114.70	121.90†	+ 0.10	4.36
EuroFund	42.90	45.53	- 0.21	0.44
Financial	40.20	42.71	- 0.11	1.76
Growth & Inc #	213.40	226.70†	- 0.40	3.40
High Dist #	141.80	150.70	.	4.96
International	345.50	367.10	- 4.10	0.74
Int Cap Inc	85.83	91.62	- 0.52	3.06
Latin American	21.88	23.25	- 0.81	..
Pacific	69.10	73.42	- 1.90	..
Preference Share	20.64	21.93	- 0.05	7.52
Tokyo	201.60	214.20	- 1.40	..
UK Smaller Cos	206.90	219.80	- 1.00	1.25
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD 0171 242 0242				
Elcon Trust	197.60	210.76	- 3.98	1.02
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	184.30	196.10	.	1.08
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 01296 431 480				
European	75.58	79.56	+ 0.05	1.73
Ethical Tst	39.91	42.01	- 0.08	1.48
Far Eastern	269.14	283.30	- 2.31	2.17
High Income	120.21	126.54	- 0.29	5.18
Intl Growth	106.12	111.71†	- 0.40	1.42
North American	104.12	109.60	- 0.46	1.47
Pelican	105.29	111.68	- 0.59	3.41
Smaller Cos	62.43	65.72	- 0.38	3.00
Special Sits	80.78	85.01	- 0.62	2.68
Tst of Inv Tsts	166.64	175.62†	- 0.30	1.71
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	184.73	192.43	- 1.22	1.52
Smaller Cos Acc	323.24	336.71	- 2.14	1.52
Recovery	46.52	48.46	- 0.50	1.47
Recovery Acc	47.02	48.98	- 0.50	1.47
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD 01392 412 144				
Balanced	106.86	113.70	- 0.63	5.12
Capital Growth	74.19	78.56	- 0.55	
Fd of Inv Tsts	40.56	43.28	- 0.26	0.87
High Income #	39.91	42.77	- 0.13	10.76
Warrant	46.93	51.01†	- 0.78	.
Zero Preference	36.60	38.83	- 0.05	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD 01273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	71.29	75.83†	- 0.66	2.64
Family Income Tst	41.37	41.37†	- 0.56	6.20
Family Trust	77.63	82.58†	- 0.58	1.52
United Charities	241.80	257.20	- 2.20	3.95
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD Callfree: Private Clients 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	.	5.80
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	26.08	26.17†	- 0.22	7.77
Intl Bond	27.48	28.54	+ 0.02	5.38
Income Funds				
High Income	22.57	23.75†	- 0.14	5.97
Income Plus	100.40	106.80†	- 0.40	4.36
Amer Eq Inc	43.50	46.93	- 0.72	2.10
European Income	39.75	42.27†	- 0.24	1.73
Far East Inc	59.10	62.87	- 0.08	2.52
Global Convertible	21.34	22.77	- 0.03	3.69
UK Div Gth	22.23	23.64†	- 0.12	2.07
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	53.78	57.37	- 1.39	
America	225.09	238.20	- 3.90	..
Amer Spec Sits	107.40	114.50	- 2.09	..
Japan Smaller Cos	35.29	37.64†	- 0.05	..
European	158.30	168.40	- 1.30	...
European Opps	59.16	62.91	- 0.47	..
Global Priv	22.41	23.94	- 0.31	0.99
UK Growth	83.64	88.84	- 0.42	
Growth & Inc	128.80	136.60	- 0.70	2.41
Intl PEP	33.89	35.04	- 0.31	.
Japan Spec Sits	84.80	90.27†	+ 0.04	.
Japan	175.60	186.90	- 0.69	..
Managed Intl	251.60	267.50†	- 3.40	
Moneybuilder	48.70	51.79	- 0.44	
Recovery	44.09	46.88	- 0.23	
South E Asia	130.30	139.00	- 3.90	...
Special Sits	472.60	502.50	- 4.70	
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	108.46	108.46	+ 0.02	5.80
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	124.30	127.00†	- 1.70	2.02
Inc Pfolio #	78.42	79.96†	- 0.37	4.18
Cap Pfolio	129.80	132.10	- 0.80	1.36
General Opps	112.70	114.60	- 1.70	3.66
Growth Inc	27.59	28.18	- 0.06	1.91
Private Portfolio	364.10	372.60†	- 14	1.41
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT Enq 0171 454 1434 Dlg 01277 261 010				
Hypo Foreign & Colonial				
European	106.30	112.30	- 0.80	0.63
Emrg Asian	148.40	158.70	- 2.70	
High Income	20.22	21.47†	- 0.01	10.46
Oseas Income	84.31	90.02	- 1.25	3.59
UK Growth	98.73	105.80	- 0.10	1.89
UK Income	98.05	105.20	- 0.20	3.98
US Smaller Cos	279.90	299.40	- 5.70	0.13

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD 0171 407 5966				
High Inc Eqty	43.09	45.94	- 0.38	3.54
-do- Inv Tst Inc	68.80	72.34†	- 0.35	4.09
Intl Growth	83.04	88.29		1.35
Investment Trust	82.32	86.56†	- 0.62	...
UK Smaller Cos	75.75	79.65	- 0.30	1.03
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD 0171 374 4100				
American Growth	52.13	55.78†	- 0.80	..
(Accum Units)	52.13	55.78†	- 0.80	..
Amer Smllr Cos	445.80	476.80	- 7.70	..
(Accum Units)	455.50	487.20	- 7.80	..
Capital Tst	282.10	300.00	- 1.10	1.61
(Accum Units)	402.90	428.50	- 1.60	1.61
Cont Smllr Cos	57.82	61.81	- 0.31	0.50
(Accum Units)	60.80	64.99	- 0.34	0.50
Convertible	117.30	124.80	- 0.90	5.87
(Accum Units)	237.10	252.20	+ 2.00	5.87
Emerging Markets	57.66	61.58	- 1.82	...
(Accum Units)	57.69	61.83	- 1.84	...
European	112.10	118.80	- 0.70	0.14
(Accum Units)	117.40	124.50	- 0.70	0.14
Extra Income	303.80	323.10†	- 1.40	4.16
(Accum Units)	459.30	488.60†	- 2.00	4.16
Financial	114.80	123.30	- 1.70	0.30
(Accum Units)	120.70	129.80	- 1.70	0.30
Gilt Trust	80.15	82.03	- 0.26	6.37
(Accum Units)	84.00	86.53	- 0.37	6.37
Health Fund Inc	127.30	135.80	- 2.20	...
(Accum Units)	127.30	135.80	- 2.20	...
Income & Growth	174.40	185.50	- 1.10	3.32
(Accum Units)	263.30	280.10	- 1.70	3.32
Intl Growth	329.90	353.40	- 4.20	...
(Accum Units)	366.30	392.30	- 4.80	...
Japan & Gen	158.70	167.40†	- 0.60	...
(Accum Units)	158.30	169.10†	- 0.50	...
Monthly Inc	148.90	158.30†	- 0.50	4.23
Managed Port Inc	95.86	100.90	- 0.60	1.52
(Accum Units)	101.60	106.90	- 0.70	1.52
Quarterly Income	48.75	51.85†	- 0.15	4.89
(Accum Units)	52.34	55.67†	- 0.15	4.89
Recovery	313.70	335.40†	- 2.20	0.13
(Accum Units)	369.30	394.60†	- 2.70	0.13
UK Growth	49.78	53.29	+ 0.14	2.79
(Accum Units)	51.49	55.03	+ 0.14	2.79
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS Dealing 01705 881330 Enq 01705 881340				
FP Am Smllr Cos	104.40	111.60	- 2.30	0.0
FP Asian Growth	224.10	240.20	- 5.60	0.0
FP Equity Dist	351.10	373.50	- 1.50	2.93
-do- Accum	741.50	788.80	- 3.30	2.93
FP Euro Gth Dist	137.80	146.50†	- 0.40	0.60
-do- Accum	143.60	152.70†	- 0.40	0.60
FP Fixed Int Dist	125.40	132.40†	- 0.90	7.58
-do- Accum	232.60	245.70†	- 1.60	7.58
FP Intl Bond	54.02	57.13†	+ 0.02	6.74
FP Intl Gth Dist	84.43	89.81	- 0.49	0.75
-do- Accum	88.39	94.03	- 0.51	0.75
FP Nth Amer Dist	173.50	183.70	- 2.50	1.20
-do- Accum	191.10	202.40	- 2.80	1.20
FP Pac Basin Dist	278.90	296.60	- 2.10	0.27
-do- Accum	284.60	302.70	- 2.00	0.27
FP Income	49.58	52.88	- 0.21	5.51
(Accum Units)	160.50	171.20	- 0.60	5.51
FP Jap Smllr Cos	314.70	335.60	- 0.10	0.0
FP Monthly Dist	65.99	70.42†	- 0.35	8.30
FP Stlg Deposit	100.70	100.70	.	6.25
FP Tokyo	80.24	85.58	- 0.22	0.0
FP UK Focus	33.52	36.04	+ 0.01	2.12
FP Uk Growth	158.90	167.30	- 0.30	3.04
(Accum Units)	303.80	324.00	- 0.50	3.04
Stewardship Dist	305.80	325.30	- 0.90	2.14
-do- Accum	374.10	397.90	- 1.10	2.14
Stwrdshp Inc Dist	65.92	70.12†	- 0.32	3.93
-do- Accum	85.51	90.98†	- 0.41	3.93
N Am Stshp Dist	89.21	94.90	- 1.10	0.80
-do- Accum	94.76	100.80	- 1.30	0.80
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Grth Acc	100.30	106.60	+ 0.60	1.05
Open Cap Gth Acc	101.10	107.50	+ 0.40	0.28
Cap Gth Inc Inc	96.82	103.00†	+ 0.40	2.51
Cap Gth Inc Acc	99.17	105.50	+ 0.40	2.51
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic	98.80	105.10†	- 0.20	3.16
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac	101.50	107.90	- 0.20	3.16
NM Unit Trusts				
American	42.35	45.05	- 0.62	1.22
Australian	283.10	303.70	- 2.0	0.0
European	190.80	202.90	- 1.80	0.76
(Accum Units)	206.40	219.50	- 1.70	0.76
Gold	43.20	46.45	+ 1.73	0.0
Japan	29.30	31.16	- 0.36	1.0
(Accum Units)	42.35	45.19	- 0.51	1.0
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0345 581 106/7				
GANDA	216.40	228.90	- 1.20	2.70
Cash	49.47	50.21†	+ 0.02	5.30
Growth Portfolio	70.61	74.84	- 0.56	1.10
Income Portfolio	59.19	62.59†	- 0.47	4.93
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD 0171 236 6441				
Special Sits	156.30	167.20	- 1.80	1.68
Dividend	80.83	86.45†	- 2.59	3.84
Intl Gth & Inc	200.90	214.90	- 3.10	3.38
UK & Gen	39.40	42.14†	- 1.17	2.64
Fund of Funds	58.13	62.17	+ 0.36	..
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0171 710 4567 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
Amer Spec Sits	170.10	182.00	- 2.80	..
European	517.60	551.90†	- 3.10	0.36
Far East & Gen	224.40	240.00	- 4.40	..
Germany	114.60	121.40	- 1.10	..
Income Inc	139.00	148.70†	- 0.30	4.92
(Accum Units)	150.00	160.50	- 0.30	4.92
International	288.10	308.30†	- 3.30	..
Intl Income	74.78	79.28	- 0.63	4.28
Japan & General	370.50	394.20	- 0.50	..
Korean Securities	58.38	62.45	- 0.93	..
Smlr Cos Ovr Inc	41.30	44.17	- 0.22	5.43
UK Capital Inc	149.50	159.80†	- 0.70	1.45
UK Capital Acc	261.40	279.60	- 1.20	1.45
UK Spec Sits	74.42	79.60	- 0.54	0.77
US & General	126.40	134.50	- 2.10	..
Wwide Spec Sits	132.90	142.20	- 1.50	..
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS 0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	43.66	46.66†	- 0.03	2.68
Cash Trust	136.84	138.84†	+ 0.01	5.21
Practical Inv Inc #	107.27	114.73	- 0.48	3.58
(Accum Units) #	243.89	260.84	- 1.11	3.58
UK Index	135.36	138.73†	- 0.44	3.53
UK Smaller Cos	112.48	120.30	- 1.89	1.13
Income Funds				
Preference Share	23.95	25.62	- 0.11	8.37
High Income	30.47	32.59†	- 0.25	5.48
UK Equity Income	122.95	131.50†	- 1.16	3.67
Global Bond	27.34	28.33	- 0.17	5.54
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	39.31	42.04	- 1.21	..
Global Inc & Gth	121.52	129.36	- 1.64	2.57
Gold & Intl Res	95.73	102.39	+ 1.20	..
Global Utilities	114.09	122.46	- 2.81	1.36
Overseas Funds				
American	132.63	141.89	- 2.21	1.31
European	94.74	100.51†	- 0.79	1.33
Euro Sml Opps	137.73	146.48	- 0.99	...
Amer Emerging	90.43	96.72	- 1.93	..
Hong Kong	115.95	124.21†	- 4.23	1.92
Japan	220.18	234.01	- 1.48	...
Pacific Growth	188.31	201.40	- 4.45	1.59
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	183.63	193.63	- 4.72	2.31
Long Term Bal	215.82	215.82	- 1.20	3.47
Med Term Bal	186.44	186.44	- 0.80	3.92
UK Equity	223.46	223.46	+ 0.07	2.73
UK Emerging Cos	130.81	130.81	- 0.50	2.40
American	218.07	218.07†	- 3.33	1.72
Japan	189.47	189.47†	- 1.98	..
European	246.13	246.13†	- 2.36	1.29
Index Linked Gilt	163.35	163.35	- 0.93	3.05
Fixed Interest	151.35	151.35	- 1.12	6.97
Amer Emerges	237.18	237.18†	- 4.06	0.20
Pacific	204.47	204.47	- 4.22	1.01
Emerging Mkts	105.62	105.62†	- 2.86	0.80
Index Strat Japan	141.22	141.22†	- 0.66	0.32
-do- Pacific Rim	158.65	158.65†	- 4.39	1.46
-do- Cont Europe	142.85	142.85†	+ 1.55	1.93
Index Strat USA	125.23	125.23†	- 2.24	2.48
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	92.85	98.89	- 0.83	.
Med Term Bal	88.84	94.30	- 0.45	.
Long Term Bal	97.01	103.21	- 0.57	..
Uk Equity	103.34	109.94	+ 0.04	..
UK Emerging Cos	61.23	65.14	- 0.25	.
American	101.11	107.57	- 1.74	..
Japan	52.57	55.93	- 1.00	..
European	102.55	109.10	- 1.05	..
Fixed Interest	76.56	81.45	- 0.61	..
Index Linked Gilt	72.54	77.17	- 0.44	..
Deposit	80.44	85.57	..	...
Becker Unit Trusts				
Berkeley Int Grth	106.70	113.50	+ 0.90	.
Berkeley Income #	104.10	110.70	- 0.30	3.98
BWH Intl	127.34	134.04†	+ 0.57	0.63
Brdfll Gth Port Inc	56.86	60.01†	+ 0.13	0.60
-do- Inc Port Inc	52.89	55.93†	- 0.32	3.40
-do- Wwide Port	49.38	52.12	+ 0.43	0.10
Sbwr Utilities	50.74	53.55	- 2.28	3.27
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
& Intl Inc	518.18	551.26	..	1.85
(Accum Units)	576.32	613.11	..	1.85
European Inc	135.26	143.89	- 0.64	1.13
Amalgam Inc	135.79	143.60	- 0.40	.
N America Inc	317.49	337.76	.	.
Far East Inc	305.18	324.66	.	.
(Accum Units)	316.07	336.24	.	
UK Distd Inc	166.66	177.30	..	1.59
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD 0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7966				
UK Equity Inc	80.60	85.02	- 0.88	4.93
UK Small Cos	45.45	48.61	- 0.16	1.02
British Growth	50.18	53.03	- 0.30	2.61
American Growth	157.02	167.93	- 0.44	
Japan Grwth	68.57	73.33	+ 0.29	
Greater China	166.34	177.90	- 1.10	
Pacific Strategy	141.16	150.97	- 1.60	
European Grwth	82.34	88.06	- 0.18	0.29
Intl Growth	135.83	145.27	- 0.67	.
US Index (£)	12.90	13.59	- 0.18	4.90
FT-SE Mid 250 Ind	68.47	72.52†	- 0.23	2.46
Monthly Income	35.03	37.58†	- 0.27	6.00
MIS Unit Trust Dealing: 071 665 0933				
Gvt UK Index (£)	9.32	9.84	- 0.01	4.40
GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 488 1212				
Small Cos	81.47	86.67†	.	1.77
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD 0171 538 9888				
Cash	128.30	128.30		4.79
European	459.30	490.50	- 2.90	0.15
Gilt & Fixed	120.90	128.30†	- 0.90	5.86
Growth Equity	299.20	319.60	- 2.40	2.14
Income Trust	120.00	128.20	- 1.10	3.22
International	165.30	176.50	- 1.10	0.17
Japan Trust	119.60	127.90	+ 1.50	
Nth American	244.10	260.70	- 3.10	0.21
Pacific	476.00	508.50	- 10.60	..
Guardian	450.50	481.30†	- 3.00	2.08
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD 0171 522 2129				
EMU Trust	94.72	98.29†	- 0.62	7.57
Global High Inc	92.52	98.07	- 0.79	7.08
Prem Fixed Int	96.97	102.73	- 1.08	6.83
Eqty & Bond Inc	95.99	102.08	- 1.16	5.27
European Growth	96.72	102.84	- 0.03	..
Intl PEP Trust	55.51	59.02	- 0.62	..
High Income	111.02	118.04†	- 3.04	4.41
-do- Accum	152.72	162.37	- 4.19	4.41
Recovery	338.10	359.50	- 2.60	1.73
(Accum Units)	388.10	412.70	- 2.90	1.73
St Vinc High Inc	111.89	113.56†	- 3.67	7.72
UK Emerg Cos	230.80	245.40	+ 1.00	1.53
UK Smlr Cos	344.50	350.60	+ 0.10	2.10
Glob Priv Tst	85.35	90.74	- 1.00	1.60
(Accum Units)	86.15	91.60	- 1.02	1.60
Global Share Tst	81.52	86.67†	- 0.48	8.93
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD Dealing: 0171 220 5050				
Growth	23.94	25.38		1.85
Growth Acc	23.94	25.38		1.85
Income	23.92	25.36	+ 0.07	4.27
Income Acc	23.92	25.36	+ 0.07	4.27
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 390				
Model Pfolio	185.60	197.70†	- 1.00	2.62
Smaller Cos	30.87	32.84†	- 0.21	0.86
HENDERSON TOUCHE REMNANT Enquiries: 01277 263 280 Dealing: 01277 234 772				
UK Funds				
Special Sits	273.60	292.75†	- 1.23	1.41
Best of British	59.60	63.35	- 0.64	2.91
UK Smaller Cos	112.92	121.38†	- 0.61	1.98
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth	265.35	271.93	- 1.10	3.88
(Accum Units)	686.40	730.58	- 2.95	3.88

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
High Income #	291.59	311.70†	- 1.17	4.47
Extra Income #	255.31	271.51†	- 1.24	6.28
Pref & Gilt	45.63	49.04†	- 0.19	8.96
International				
International	239.95	255.54	- 3.05	0.83
Global Bond	50.39	53.62†	- 0.30	8.32
Intl Fxd Int	75.17	80.39	+ 0.27	9.32
Global Tech	147.60	157.85	- 1.94	..
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	154.02	164.76	- 3.48	0.31
European	443.37	470.01	- 4.12	0.52
European Income	76.79	81.24†	- 0.60	2.72
Euro Smlr Cos	145.54	156.16	- 8.32	0.15
Eur Sp Sits	66.01	70.22	- 0.14	0.30
(Accum Units)	70.71	75.22	- 0.15	0.30
Japan Trust	195.12	207.72†	- 2.99	..
Japan Special Sits	213.81	228.94	- 1.82	..
Pacific Smlr Cos	216.83	232.00	- 4.64	..
North American	218.86	233.38	- 4.84	0.45
American Smaller	99.15	105.99	- 1.19	...
Henderson TR Pension Portfolio				
American Growth	52.60	55.98	- 0.55	..
Eur Sp Sits	58.89	60.20	- 0.11	..
General Growth	40.65	43.08	- 0.04	..
Income Growth	39.41	41.77	- 0.18	..
Japan Growth	23.90	25.33	- 0.36	...
Smaller Cos	20.34	21.56	.	..
Special Opps	27.13	28.75	- 0.13	...
Wwide Sp Sits	43.75	48.38	- 0.58	...
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS 0181 686 4355				
British	90.14	94.38	- 0.25	2.24
Capital	158.00	165.40†	- 1.10	1.64
Dollar	325.00	340.30	- 5.30	.
Enterprise Gth	295.80	308.70†	- 1.50	2.60
European	211.80	221.70	- 1.50	0.56
Far East	276.40	289.40	- 11.00	0.16
Financial	746.10	781.20	- 3.80	1.62
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	24.55	25.53	- 0.18	7.68
High Yield	95.68	100.10	- 0.80	4.45
Income & Growth	132.10	138.30	- 0.50	3.66
International	232.50	243.40	- 2.60	..
Japanese General	188.70	197.30	- 0.30	..
Japan Tech	75.08	79.58†	- 0.50	..
Nat Resources	63.65	66.65	+ 0.39	..
Portfolio	66.91	70.06	- 0.41	1.45
Smaller Cos	118.30	123.80	- 0.50	1.61
Special Sits	137.80	144.20†	- 1.50	1.80
UK Emerging Cos	87.44	91.55	- 0.19	0.80
US Smaller Cos	79.68	83.43	- 1.48	.
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Advisors: 0800 181 890 Inv 0800 289 505				
UK Funds				
Balanced #	92.82	100.18†	- 0.50	6.58
Capital	545.10	581.80	+ 3.6	2.60
Income #	517.00	551.80†	+ 1.90	5.42
Footsie Fund	48.48	50.13	.	3.02
Trckle Index	100.60	107.40†	- 0.70	2.19
UK Index	127.10	135.60	- 0.50	3.31
International Funds				
American Growth	452.00	482.40	- 7.70	0.86
American Index	188.30	200.70†	- 3.70	1.27
European Growth	104.20	110.80	- 1.20	0.34
Eurotrack 100	148.60	158.10†	- 1.40	0.90
Global Bond	19.77	20.85	- 0.12	6.44
Japan Growth	255.00	271.70	- 1.70	..
Japan Index	75.23	80.29†	- 0.33	6.04
Japan Smlr Cos	31.59	33.71†	- 0.17	
International Growth Funds				
Asian	48.23	51.47	- 1.42	0.25
Hong Kong Grth	81.93	87.44†	- 3.15	1.82
Spore & Mlysa Gth	66.11	70.55	- 0.80	..
Tiger Index	177.40	189.30	- 5.80	1.53
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	28.29	29.36†	- 0.15	1.11
General Funds				
Managed	66.49	69.01	- 0.39	2.03
Rupert Child Fnd	76.66	81.54	- 0.13	2.63
UK Growth	54.98	57.06	- 0.19	2.53
High Income Funds				
Cashbox (Dist)	50.18	50.18†	+ 0.01	3.64
Cashbox (Acc)	59.17	59.17†	+ 0.02	3.64
UK Extra Inc	77.37	80.81†	- 0.26	7.08
Gilt & Fixed Int	25.42	26.21	- 0.15	7.83
UK Inc & Grth	37.42	38.84	- 0.11	4.15
UK Income	312.90	324.70	- 0.80	3.91
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	45.72	47.35†	- 0.85	0.60
Amer Smllr Cos	108.20	112.30	- 1.10	.
(Accum Units)	109.30	113.40	- 1.20	.
Europe Gth	144.50	149.70	- 0.80	...
(Accum Units)	149.40	154.70	- 0.90	..
Euro Smaller Cos	27.23	28.26	- 0.18	..
French Growth	70.45	73.12†	- 0.21	0.37
Accum Units	75.58	78.45†	- 0.22	0.37
H Kong & China	67.30	69.85	- 2.28	2.13
Intl Growth	52.66	54.66	- 0.85	0.72
(Accum Units)	53.10	55.11	- 0.67	0.72
Japan Gth	30.24	31.38	- 0.11	..
Accum Units	30.24	31.38	- 0.11	..
Japan Smaller Cos	36.67	38.06	- 0.07	..
Glob Emg Mkts	82.17	85.15	- 1.90	..
Accum Units	80.67	83.73	- 1.92	..
SE Asia	280.70	291.30†	- 6.20	0.53
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond	51.76	53.32†	- 0.13	6.08
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD 0171 581 3020				
American Cap	125.90	133.90	- 2.80	..
Income	138.67	147.52	- 0.67	4.14
UK Growth	51.05	54.31	- 0.23	0.64
International	88.30	93.71†	- 0.69	0.06
Ecology	74.86	79.64	- 0.85	1.35
European	119.15	126.32	- 0.46	..
Far Eastern	265.60	282.50	- 4.60	..
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Extra Income	45.95	48.88†	+ 0.12	7.66
Gilt Yield	110.40	116.50†	+ 0.20	6.87
Global Income	194.00	206.40†	- 2.00	4.38
High Yield	127.80	136.00	+ 0.11	6.50
(Accum Units)	386.50	411.20	+ 0.11	6.50
Smllr Cos Div	48.13	51.20†	- 0.08	3.27
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smll Cos	82.81	88.10†	- 0.89	..
North American	71.57	76.14	- 0.89	0.16
European Special	102.40	108.90	- 0.20	0.14
European	145.80	155.10	- 0.30	0.39
(Accum Units)	191.50	203.70	- 0.40	0.39
General	256.30	272.70	+ 2.90	3.32
Global Eqty Inc	94.79	100.80		1.20
Japan	374.80	398.50	- 2.00	..
Japanese Special	215.80	229.60†	- 0.20	..
Master Accum	219.60	233.60	- 1.20	0.59
Pacific	295.10	313.90	- 4.50	
(Accum Units)	346.10	368.20	- 5.20	.
Smaller Cos	101.40	107.90	- 0.20	0.64
UK Equity Growth	36.30	38.62†	- 0.02	1.68
KNIGHT WILLIAMS PRTFOL MGRS 0171 629 1663				
Global Inc & Gth	57.46	61.12	- 0.22	.
Inv Trust	80.45	84.30	- 0.65	
Customs Inc/Gth	54.91	58.41	- 0.33	1.50
High Inc Acc	52.81	58.18	- 0.49	4.80
L & C UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 568 2800				
Income	539.80	550.80†		6.16
Intl & General	383.40	391.20†		0.01
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT 0171 407 5966				
Bridge Income	245.28	260.94	+ 0.49	5.75
Inc & Growth Inc	50.95	54.20	+ 0.07	5.0
Smaller Cos	52.54	56.0	- 0.10	1.46
LAURENTIAN UNIT TST MGMT LTD Enq: 01452 371 500 Dlg: 01452 371 623				
Growth Trust	229.50	244.10	.	2.06
High Income	99.75	106.10	.	4.58
International	91.40	97.23		0.57
Recovery Trust	59.76	63.57		1.51
European Trust	78.39	83.39†		0.56
Japanese Trust	40.44	43.02†		.
American Trust	81.72	86.93		0.54
Managed	62.76	66.76†		0.69
Cash	51.46	51.46		4.49
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 374 0818				
UK Cap	337.10	343.10†		2.84
UK Inc/Gth	362.30	367.70†	..	3.52
UK Income	253.40	257.50†	..	4.49
UK Sm Cos	221.40	229.90†	...	2.12
Euro Grth	121.20	122.00	..	
N Amer Grth	78.28	79.10	..	0.11
Japan Growth	60.65	61.39	+ 1.48	..
Money Mkt	123.03	123.03	+ 0.616	1.500
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 365				
Equity Dist	433.90	461.60†	- 1.50	2.84
(Accum Units)	862.40	917.49†	- 3.10	2.84
Equity Income	90.36	96.13	- 0.22	4.25
UK Tactical Allocatn	52.89	55.31†	+ 0.15	3.21
European	109.50	116.50†	- 1.10	1.00
Far Eastern	194.30	205.70	- 3.30	.
Fixed Interest	49.03	52.18†	- 0.24	7.02
Gilt	85.60	90.99	- 0.67	6.84
Global Growth	66.81	71.07	- 1.09	0.11
Intl Bond	49.55	52.64†	- 0.21	5.36
Japanese	66.65	71.10	- 0.09	.
North American	135.00	143.60†	- 2.70	1.10
Pacific Growth	95.97	102.10	- 1.90	0.43
UK Index	58.02	61.24	- 0.25	3.35
UK Recovery	84.10	89.47	- 0.59	2.01
UK Smaller Cos	113.50	120.70	- 0.30	1.57
US Index	56.55	59.68	- 1.06	1.89
European Index	70.76	74.68†	- 0.82	1.61
Japan Index	39.11	41.26	- 0.09	.
Worldwide	76.84	81.74	- 0.61	1.61
LINCOLN NATIONAL 0181 802 8876 Dealing: 0800 282 621				
Growth	46.65	49.90	- 0.09	2.25
Income	54.43	58.27	- 0.56	3.17
Far East	47.18	50.46	- 0.86	..
North American	87.38	93.45	- 1.39	.
Global	83.55	89.36†	- 0.80	0.38
European	80.26	85.84†	- 0.72	0.65
Japan	99.78	106.70	- 0.60	..
Intl Currency Bd	58.99	60.47	- 0.93	3.96
SE Asia	88.17	95.37	- 2.57	..
UK Cap Growth	85.65	91.82	- 0.64	1.65
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD Helpdesk: 01634 834 339 Dealing: 01634 834 313				
Balanced	318.80	339.20	+ 2.70	3.10
-do- Acc	725.10	771.40	+ 6.10	3.10

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Cntl Euro Gth	61.32	64.55	+ 0.09	0.91
-do- Acc	65.53	68.98	+ 0.10	0.91
Extra Inc	239.60	253.90	+ 1.90	4.49
-do- Acc	618.70	658.30	+ 5.20	4.49
FTSE 100 Inc	92.03	97.91	- 0.22	2.91
FTSE 100 Acc	92.03	97.91	- 0.29	2.91
German Gth	128.20	135.00	- 0.40	0.19
-do- Acc	134.40	141.50	- 0.50	0.19
Growth Port	502.20	534.30	- 10.00	0.33
-do- Acc	510.50	543.10	- 10.30	0.33
Hi Income Inc #	94.65	102.70	- 0.70	6.26
Hi Income Acc #	94.65	100.70	- 0.70	6.26
Income	449.60	477.70	- 5.40	4.07
-do- Acc	£12.06	£12.83	- 25.80	4.07
Income Port	484.60	515.80	- 2.50	4.01
-do- Acc	514.30	547.20	- 2.80	4.01
Japan Growth	95.90	102.10	+ 1.10	...
-do- Acc	96.24	102.40	+ 1.00	..
Master Tract	51.75	55.06	- 3.80	1.66
-do- Acc	57.77	61.46	- 3.35	1.66
N American Gen	165.60	176.40	- 2.60	0.87
-do- Acc	191.50	203.80	- 3.80	0.87
Nikko Sm Co Rec	128.40	136.60	- 2.00	..
-do- Acc	131.00	139.40	- 2.00	..
Pacific Basin	222.70	237.00†	- 5.70	0.86
-do- Acc	236.70	251.90	- 5.90	0.86
Small Cos Rec	337.10	354.90	- 1.30	2.19
-do- Acc	450.60	474.60	- 1.70	2.19
UK Growth	78.09	84.14	- 0.44	2.82
-do- Acc	96.06	102.20	- 0.60	2.82
Worldwide Gth	284.50	302.70	- 1.60	0.62
-do- Acc	419.00	446.40	- 2.50	0.62
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT 01392 282 673				
American	60.62	65.25	- 0.91	0.10
General	79.18	84.95	- 0.58	2.70
Income	59.15	63.46†	- 0.59	5.60
International	58.15	62.38	- 0.38	0.58
Japan	54.04	57.97	+ 0.65	.
Tst of Inv Tsts	61.86	66.39	- 0.63	1.40
M & G SECURITIES Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	360.90	381.70†	- 4.50	0.74
(Accum Units)	449.70	475.70	- 5.60	0.74
Amer Recovery	419.00	443.10	- 4.60	0.71
(Accum Units)	480.80	508.50	- 5.20	0.71
Amer Smllr Cos	123.80	130.90	- 1.40	..
(Accum Units)	126.50	133.80	- 1.40	..
Australasian	137.50	145.40†	- 0.80	2.40
(Accum Units)	169.20	177.80	- 0.80	2.40
Capital	769.10	812.30†	- 2.50	2.87
(Accum Units)	881.30	932.10	- 2.80	2.87
Charifund	630.70	637.19	- 3.40	6.18
(Accum Units)	£29.44	£29.73	- 15.50	6.18
Commodity	346.10	366.00†	- 0.30	0.50
(Accum Units)	508.20	537.30	- 0.50	0.50
Compound Grth	868.20	918.10	- 4.40	3.38
(Accum Units)	910.10	962.40	- 4.60	3.38
Dividend	36.90	39.00	- 0.20	4.73
(Accum Units)	154.80	163.90	- 0.70	4.73
Equity Income	315.70	333.90†	- 2.00	5.24
(Accum Units)	410.10	433.70	- 2.70	5.24
Euro & General	482.20	509.90	+ 2.00	1.24
(Accum Units)	610.00	645.00	+ 2.50	1.24
Euro Dividend	66.70	70.50	...	3.76
(Accum Units)	80.30	84.80	- 0.10	3.76
Extra Yield	384.20	406.30	- 2.50	5.24
(Accum Units)	£11.92	£12.61	- 7.90	5.24
Far Eastern	313.30	331.30†	- 3.40	0.88
(Accum Units)	415.90	439.80	- 4.50	0.88
Fund of Inv Tsts	574.90	608.00	- 5.50	2.26
(Accum Units)	£10.73	£11.35	- 10.30	2.26
General	55.90	59.10	- 0.50	4.01
(Accum Units)	157.20	166.30	- 1.30	4.01
Gilt Income	56.93	57.03†	- 0.80	8.29
(Accum Units)	158.51	158.81	- 2.27	8.29
Gold	57.70	61.00	+ 2.20	1.14
(Accum Units)	68.20	72.00	+ 2.50	1.14
High Income	26.20	27.70	- 0.20	5.04
(Accum Units)	105.10	111.20	- 0.70	5.04
Intl Growth	69.60	73.80†	.	1.17
(Accum Units)	121.70	128.80	..	1.17
International Inc	91.70	97.00	- 0.60	5.07
(Accum Units)	136.10	144.00	- 0.90	5.07
Japan & Gen	42.80	45.30	+ 0.50	..
(Accum Units)	45.90	48.60	+ 0.50	..
Japan Smllr Cos	148.80	157.50	+ 1.30	..
(Accum Units)	149.90	158.60	+ 1.30	..
Managed Income	25.50	26.98†	- 0.10	4.21
Midland	57.49	60.70	- 0.30	3.38
(Accum Units)	191.80	203.00	- 0.70	3.38
Pension Ex	860.60	882.20	- 6.50	4.71
Recovery	37.90	40.10	- 0.40	2.98
(Accum Units)	82.20	86.90	- 0.70	2.98
Second General	64.60	68.30	- 0.30	3.70
(Accum Units)	167.80	177.50	- 0.60	3.70
Smaller Cos	64.70	68.40†	- 0.20	3.31
(Accum Units)	128.00	136.50	- 0.30	3.31
Sterling Hi Int	23.57	23.67	- 0.28	8.93
Treasury	25.04	25.06†	+ 0.01	6.19
Trustee	38.30	40.50	- 0.20	4.77
(Accum Units)	154.20	163.30	- 0.90	4.77
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	78.61	87.50	- 0.64	1.33
Intl Bond	61.42	64.59	+ 0.17	5.92
Intl Equity Growth	65.39	69.55	- 0.60	0.83
N Amer Growth	88.86	94.58†	- 1.49	1.17
Special Sits Growth	19.77	21.03†	- 0.20	1.78

Jermyn Street Quality
High Street prices

Liquidation stock of Jermyn Street quality shirts from £19.95

Recently, a UK mail-order supplier of Jermyn Street gentlemen's shirts went into liquidation. As their principal supplier we were left with limited stocks of superb Egyptian twofold cotton poplin cloth, which we have made into a range of outstanding shirts, at well below Jermyn Street sale prices. Avoid the rush, send for your free full colour catalogue now.

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TM20

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Growth	342.20	364.00	- 1.80	2.97
(Accum Units)	446.40	474.80	- 2.30	2.97
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD 01620 826867				
Balanced Fd #	£12.24	£12.47		3.40
Income #	927.60	942.60†		4.80
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	135.40	139.60	..	4.37
MANULIFE MANAGEMENT LTD Dealings: 01438 747 414				
Growth Units	183.30	196.08	- 1.10	2.61
Gilt & Fxd Int	160.80	169.40	- 2.00	7.14
Intl Growth	193.40	208.00	- 1.40	0.31
North American	169.30	180.60	- 2.70	0.66
Far East	239.90	256.60	- 4.79	1.07
UK Smaller Cos	160.70	171.90	- 0.90	1.83
European	77.70	82.98	- 0.23	0.13
Japanese Growth	45.48	48.41	+ 0.60	..
High Income	176.10	188.30	- 1.40	4.50
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD 01244 680 088				
M & S Inv Pfolio	140.90	148.30	- 0.13	2.46
-do- Accum	162.10	170.70	- 0.13	2.46
UK Sel Pfolio	126.10	128.40	- 0.08	2.71
-do- Accum	139.60	146.90	- 0.08	2.71
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD 01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	63.89	67.97	...	4.64
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	65.63	69.67†	- 0.50	4.66
European	78.25	83.07†	+ 0.36	0.40
Income #	68.18	72.36†	- 0.57	5.30
Nth American	58.66	62.27	- 0.79	0.60
Far East	151.20	160.50	- 0.49	..
Japan	50.51	53.62†	+ 0.63	.
Emging Mkts	81.13	86.77†	- 1.82	..
Intl Growth	98.63	104.70	- 0.70	0.75
Uk Growth	83.70	88.85	+ 0.18	1.19
UK Sml Co	43.19	45.85	- 0.11	1.03
Asian Opps Fd	33.56	35.89	- 0.44	0.38
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Income	381.54	405.89†	- 1.21	4.39
Global Inc	83.89	87.76†	- 0.57	3.65
Brit Leaders	325.30	346.06†	- 1.39	2.59
Intl Leaders	188.83	200.88†	- 2.25	0.82
PAM Mg Bal Grth	58.12	60.36†	+ 0.17	0.89
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 0171 280 2860				
American	189.80	201.20	- 2.10	
(Accum Units)	202.80	215.10	- 2.20	...
American Opps	83.87	89.46	- 0.74	..
(Accum Units)	84.92	90.58	- 0.75	..
British Blue Chip	72.45	77.00	- 0.53	3.12
(Accum Units)	89.33	94.94	- 0.65	3.12
Cash	100.60	100.60		6.01
(Accum Units)"	138.28	138.30	.	6.01
Emerging Mkts	85.64	92.09	- 1.32	0.15
(Accum Units)	85.72	92.17	- 1.32	0.15
European Growth	235.80	249.70	- 1.30	0.18
(Accum Units)	254.20	269.30	- 1.20	0.18
European Income	80.20	84.78	- 0.10	3.39
(Accum Units)	108.00	114.20	- 0.10	3.39
General	455.30	485.30†	- 3.10	2.55
(Accum Units)	903.00	962.50†	- 6.20	2.55
Global Bond	123.30	129.60	+ 0.900	5.33
(Accum Units)	148.60	156.20	+ 1.200	5.33
Gold & General	180.60	194.20	+ 3.100	0.46
(Accum Units)	185.30	199.20	+ 3.100	0.46
Govt Securities	87.57	90.26	- 0.54	6.07
(Accum Units)	170.50	175.80	- 1.00	6.07
Income	137.30	146.00†	- 0.80	4.88
(Accum Units)	216.50	230.30†	- 1.30	4.88
Inc Portfolio #	89.33	94.85	- 0.54	5.54
(Accum Units) #	90.34	95.92	- 0.55	5.54
Intl Opps	421.90	449.80	- 1.20	0.20
(Accum Units)	563.50	600.70	- 4.40	0.20
Japan	159.30	168.80	+ 1.700	
(Accum Units)	163.50	173.30	+ 1.800	
New Europe	163.56	174.40†	- 1.60	1.15
(Accum Units)	168.80	180.10†	- 1.80	1.15
Pacific	102.00	108.80	- 2.60	0.94
(Accum Units)	109.10	116.40	- 2.70	0.94
Recovery	269.10	287.00	- 1.20	0.90
(Accum Units)	343.40	366.30	- 1.50	0.90
UK Smaller Cos	51.51	54.94†	- 0.23	0.94
(Accum Units)	54.30	82.19†	- 0.25	0.94
Portfolio	74.02	78.67	- 0.52	2.83
(Accum Units)	86.90	92.36	- 0.61	2.83
Managed Gth	90.12	94.40	- 0.65	2.01
Managed Inc	96.59	100.20	- 0.40	4.49
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD 01707 662 233				
Eurogrowth Plus	109.59	116.59	- 0.57	0.92
Portfolio	61.22	65.13	- 0.47	0.59
UK Income Inc	68.85	73.03†	- 0.47	5.11
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	56.58	59.88	- 0.60	3.35
(Accum Units)	58.95	62.77	- 0.63	3.35
British Tst	77.33	80.97†	+ 0.27	2.30
(Accum Units)	89.70	95.93†	+ 0.31	2.30
Extra High Inc	84.99	88.05	+ 0.11	6.58
(Accum Units)	125.80	131.70	+ 0.20	6.58

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
FT-SE 100 Acc	50.49	52.86	- 0.01	2.86
FT-SE 100 Dist	49.71	52.05	- 0.01	2.86
Gilt & Fxd Int	51.74	53.84†	- 0.25	7.16
(Accum Units)	151.70	157.90†	- 0.70	7.16
High Yield	210.20	220.10	+ 0.20	5.88
(Accum Units)	526.50	551.30	+ 0.60	5.88
Income	264.10	276.50†	+ 0.20	3.87
(Accum Units)	582.70	610.10†	+ 0.50	3.87
Money Market UT	48.35	48.35†	..	5.47
(Accum Units)	77.24	77.24†	..	5.47
Monthly Income	79.98	83.75†	- 0.15	5.44
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	94.25	100.80	+ 0.40	1.95
European Growth	98.78	104.70	- 0.20	0.02
Gilt & Fixed	82.70	87.75	- 0.40	6.32
Income	79.11	84.18		3.04
Japan Growth	48.07	50.95	- 0.18	
Managed	65.29	69.46	- 0.26	2.53
Money Market	86.98	92.21	.	4.36
North American	81.24	86.11	- 1.44	0.52
Midland PSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	86.03	91.52	+ 0.37	1.93
European Growth	92.92	98.49	- 0.18	0.01
Gilt & Fixed Int	78.89	83.70	- 0.38	6.26
Income	77.72	82.68	- 0.01	3.11
Japan Growth	47.98	50.86	- 0.18	
Managed	62.48	66.45	- 0.25	2.50
Money Market	80.43	85.25	.	4.31
North American	74.17	78.62	- 1.28	0.62
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	85.98	91.47	+ 0.35	1.92
European Growth	90.72	96.16	- 0.15	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	72.18	78.50	- 0.38	6.45
Income	76.70	81.60	- 0.01	3.13
Japan Growth	49.11	52.05	- 0.18	..
Managed	65.15	69.31	- 0.26	2.50
Money Market	74.91	79.40	.	4.38
North American	81.97	86.89	- 1.44	0.48
MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD 0171 497 5866				
International (US$)	11.59	12.76	...	.
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD Dealers: 0171 826 0826 Enquiries: 0171 826 0123				
American Grwth	318.40	338.20	- 4.40	...
European Gth Inc	400.10	426.60	- 5.50	0.30
(Accum Units)	404.40	432.27	- 5.60	0.30
Intl Grth	180.80	192.70	- 1.30	..
Uk Equity Inc	171.60	183.00	- 0.80	3.28
Uk Ind Trckr Inc	148.10	158.40†	- 0.80	2.86
(Accum Units)	173.40	185.60†	- 0.90	2.86
US Eq Ind Trk Inc	187.90	199.20†	- 2.60	1.60
Japan Tracker	72.00	78.28	+ 0.73	..
Asian Trader	180.50	195.30	- 4.40	0.33
Managed Inc	145.10	154.70	- 0.50	1.50
Deposit Inc	99.78	99.78†	- 0.25	6.39
Europa	171.30	184.80†	- 1.30	0.28
Genesis	145.60	159.00	- 0.70	2.29
High Income	21.06	22.35†	+ 0.07	10.00
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT 0345 090 839				
Acumen	88.51	90.44	- 0.20	2.54
Acumen Inc	83.77	85.60	- 0.19	2.54
Acumen Reserve	81.31	82.12	- 0.74	3.28
-do- Inc	69.82	70.51	- 0.64	6.26
Americas Growth	136.70	141.30†	- 1.50	...
Cash Income	49.70	49.70†	..	5.43
Equity Income #	87.25	89.83†	- 0.17	4.80
European	68.30	70.65	- 0.14	0.39
Smaller Cos	73.61	77.37	- 0.16	1.21
Olympiad	57.92	59.19†	- 0.48	0.81
Global Bond	42.35	42.83†	+ 0.27	6.60
UK Growth	86.25	88.56	- 0.05	1.56
Pacific Growth	94.14	97.40	- 1.90	..
Japan Growth	88.85	90.40	- 0.63	
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Avon Equity	112.14	119.20	- 0.26	3.02
N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 0161 237 5322				
Uk Growth	68.21	72.56	- 0.49	2.29
UK Income	98.87	105.18	- 1.65	4.18
Higher Income	197.09	206.67	- 1.10	5.14
Smaller Cos	74.65	79.42	- 0.08	2.40
International	88.77	94.44	- 0.44	1.93
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS 0171 623 4200				
Americas Dist	93.14	99.62	- 1.56	0.68
European Dist	106.70	114.78	- 0.50	..
Far East Dist	161.80	173.10†	- 1.80	..
Global Care Dist	63.25	67.65	- 0.59	1.07
Oseas Dist	933.70	998.60†	- 8.20	0.15
(Accum Units)	£12.11	£12.96	- 10.70	0.15
UK Dist	317.80	339.80	- 1.00	2.68
(Accum Units)	623.30	666.60	- 2.03	2.68
UK Extra Inc Dist	70.51	75.41†	- 0.28	4.16
Wwide Dist	97.74	104.53	- 0.42	0.21
Wwide Inc Dist	65.66	70.22	- 0.26	2.69
NATIONAL WESTMINSTER UT MGRS Dlg: 01277 690 280 Admin Enq: 01277 690 308				
Europe Inc	59.95	63.27†	- 0.56	0.51
Fund of Funds Inc	54.00	58.59	- 0.31	0.91
North America Inc	48.29	48.85	- 0.64	0.53
UK Equity Gth Inc	54.21	57.21	- 0.26	2.18
(Accum Units)	56.26	59.38	- 0.27	2.18
UK General Inc	53.19	56.14	- 0.27	2.67
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	45.22	47.62	- 0.31	7.37
UK Income Inc	52.72	55.64†	- 0.34	4.19
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD Price enquiry freephone 0500 33 00 00				
Bond	112.21	118.03		5.80
Bridge Fund	80.97	86.14†		2.23
Distributor	85.34	90.79†		3.50
Foundation	86.59	91.53	- 0.44	3.91
General	169.72	180.56	..	2.29
Global	295.94	314.84†	..	0.79
Growth	114.84	122.18	..	2.70
Higher Income Inc	25.23	26.98	+ 0.08	4.68
Income	211.38	224.88	..	3.67
[illegible]	111.14	115.72	..	1.80
Formerly Capital House				
American Grth Tst	33.17	35.47	- 0.55	0.32
Cash Income	50.71	50.71		5.58
European Grth	38.09	40.50	- 0.22	0.21
Intl Grth	27.15	29.03	- 0.24	0.47
Japan Grth	24.76	26.48	- 0.18	
Managed Tst Inc	44.45	47.54	- 0.10	2.44
Oriental Opps Inc	124.60	132.53	- 2.0	0.27
Property Shares	33.89	35.38	- 0.11	0.85
Smaller Cos	28.20	30.16	- 0.15	1.46
UK Growth Tst	23.94	25.60	- 0.16	2.93
Royal Scottish Assurance				
Cap Hse Global Inc	65.73	70.29†	- 0.67	1.95
Cap Hse UK Inc	61.63	65.91	- 0.63	3.11
Exempt (E)	28.84	30.70	..	1.76
German	50.49	53.73	- 0.36	
High Income	67.37	72.05†	- 0.52	5.22
Mngd Pfolio Inc	101.70	108.70	.	1.07
Mngd Pfolio Acc	194.40	207.90	..	1.07
Monthly Income	71.59	76.56	- 1.32	4.62
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD 0191 285 2555				
Managed	88.58	94.41	- 1.55	2.36
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS 01603 682 234				
Master Trust	113.06	119.00†	- 0.79	2.23
UK Equity	126.64	133.31†	- 0.39	3.45
UK Equity Income	121.70	128.11	- 0.43	3.64
UK Smaller Cos	108.89	114.62	- 0.48	1.84
UK Equity Growth	119.72	126.02	- 0.62	2.63
UK Index Trckg	128.66	135.43†	- 0.24	3.81
Intl Index Trckg	134.14	141.38†	- 1.59	1.21
International	216.43	227.82	- 2.91	0.49
European	188.61	198.64†	- 1.57	0.39
Pan European	123.16	129.64	- 0.67	1.43
Nth American	161.77	170.28	- 3.00	0.16
N Amer Smll Cos	173.11	182.22	- 3.15	.
Japanese	86.62	91.18	- 0.54	..
Pacific	206.23	217.08	- 3.95	0.33
South East Asian	221.67	233.34	- 6.18	0.58
Intl Bond	128.42	135.18†	+ 0.18	4.27
Gilt & Convertible	100.15	105.42	- 0.28	6.78
Property	81.83	86.14	+ 0.01	5.38
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD 01256 768 888				
European Inc	241.80	260.00	- 2.90	.
(Accum Units)	255.89	275.18	- 3.10	..
Japan Inc	103.80	110.90	- 0.70	..
Nth American Inc	98.21	105.49	- 1.20	0.01
Worldwide Inc	144.10	155.10	- 1.80	0.45
Hong Kong Inc	117.60	126.30	- 4.40	1.86
Swiss Equities Inc	66.52	71.30	- 0.30	...
Wwide Bond Inc	57.10	60.46†	- 0.60	5.72
Emging Asia Inc	193.10	209.40	- 2.20	0.29
(Accum Units)	193.60	210.10	- 2.30	0.29
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.21	50.21†		5.68
Thailand Inc	151.20	162.40	- 3.60	1.41
Gold Trust Inc	66.48	72.22	+ 3.16	0.11
New Zealand Inc	81.50	87.97	- 1.01	1.76
Intl Mngd PEP Inc	58.17	62.49†	+ 0.04	1.27
Latin Am Cmp Inc	43.59	47.58	- 1.28	0.58
UK All Sh Mkr Inc	53.25	57.19†	- 0.19	2.73
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Trustees	72.18	77.20	+ 0.73	.
Global Portfolio	63.83	67.76	- 0.50	
Global Opps	62.52	66.87	+ 0.35	..
Marsh Global Grth	58.38	61.91	- 0.78	..
AAM Global Equity	51.15	54.21	- 0.15	
CAM Brit Grth Inc	83.56	89.73	- 0.71	.
Temple Equity Inc	40.92	44.14	- 0.49	3.55
Hartley Growth	68.88	73.01	- 0.47	0.38
Jnd Growth Inc	81.09	86.73	+ 0.28	0.82
IPS Portfolio Inc	75.33	80.57	+ 0.22	..
St Jms Mn Inc Inc	45.35	48.17		
Premier Pnfmc Inc	63.60	67.38	+ 0.02	1.47
Roxburgh Strat Gth	66.78	71.42	+ 0.25	..
Tech Analysis	90.66	96.09	- 0.09	.
Rosebery Growth	43.59	47.84	- 0.02	0.05
International Strat	71.68	76.88	+ 0.03	0.10
UFC Ind-Act Grth	50.17	54.31	- 0.28	
Coverdale Tapout	45.96	49.44	+ 0.25	..
Prism Equity Inc	108.70	114.40		
Lewes Intl Growth	43.50	45.79	- 0.60	0.86
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	224.00	238.20	- 1.30	2.86
(Accum Units)	472.80	502.99	- 2.30	2.86
Growth	149.00	153.70	- 0.70	2.92
Income	222.50	236.70	- 1.40	4.05
Intl Equity	233.90	248.80	- 1.20	1.26
(Accum Units)	258.50	275.00	- 1.30	1.26
Uk Income	61.18	65.08	- 0.35	3.63
UK Intl 25	74.23	78.96	- 0.39	2.51
New Europe	74.51	79.28	- 0.22	0.75
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT 01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	541.20	578.83	- 1.69	0.38
(Accum Units)	541.76	579.43	- 1.70	0.38
Income	334.54	357.80	+ 0.54	3.44
Wwide Recovery	343.55	367.44	- 1.76	0.37
Amer Growth Inc	205.01	219.27†	- 1.16	0.01
(Accum Units)	205.01	219.27	- 1.16	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	216.46	231.51	- 1.87	0.01
Far Estn Grth Inc	247.13	264.32	- 2.42	0.31
(Accum Units)	247.13	264.32	- 2.42	0.31
Euro Grwth Inc	135.91	145.36	- 1.09	0.80
(Accum Units)	136.25	145.73	- 1.09	0.80
UK Growth Inc	82.88	88.65†	+ 0.07	3.00
(Accum Units)	87.16	93.22	+ 0.07	3.00
High Income	89.26	95.47	+ 0.18	4.28
Jap Gwth Inc	202.37	215.70†	- 0.43	0.01
(Accum Units)	202.37	215.70	- 0.43	0.01
PEP Growth	109.01	118.59	- 0.31	0.92
Asian Sir Mkts Inc	109.73	117.36†	- 1.49	0.01
(Accum Units)	109.73	117.36	- 1.49	0.01
Amrl Smlr Co Inc	119.54	127.86	- 0.64	0.01
(Accum Units)	119.54	127.86	- 0.64	0.01
Global Bond	51.89	54.59†	+ 0.02	4.87
UK Smaller Cos Inc	74.59	79.78	+ 1.06	1.56
(Accum Units)	77.49	82.88	+ 1.04	1.56
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0161 201 3927				
American	91.87	97.73	+ 0.91	..
European	67.41	71.71†	+ 0.58	..
Global	57.28	60.91	+ 0.40	..
Pacific	53.06	56.45	+ 0.68	..
UK Inc & Grth	60.60	64.47†	- 0.21	1.58
POINTON YORK UT MGRS 0115 2559 542				
BRI Director Digs	85.18	90.72	- 0.49	0.35
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 01277 690 430				
Fund of Funds	146.19	155.99	+ 0.56	0.11
Emerg Mkts	40.49	42.62	- 1.94	.
PREMIUM LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01444 458 721				
Monthly Income	56.37	59.88	- 0.52	2.76
Growth Income	39.71	[illegible]	- 0.29	2.42
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	121.46	129.22†	+ 0.06	1.73

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 0171 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 282 443				
American Income	84.38	89.77	- 1.42	3.64
Conv & Gilt	105.83	112.50†	- 0.80	6.55
European Income	70.48	74.98	- 0.54	3.00
Extra Income	140.60	149.60	- 0.90	3.97
(Accum Units)	170.60	181.40	- 1.20	3.97
Far East	349.70	372.08	- 4.90	0.08
(Accum Units)	356.30	379.00	- 5.00	0.08
Global Income	23.60	25.11	- 0.14	4.75
High Income	105.90	112.70	- 9.80	3.74
(Accum Units)	125.70	133.70	- 1.00	2.74
International	180.80	192.30	- 2.90	0.70
(Accum Units)	186.30	198.20	- 2.90	0.70
Pref & Fxd Int	42.71	45.44	- 0.18	7.99
Recovery	66.14	70.36	- 0.41	2.91
Special Sits	100.90	107.40	- 0.40	1.14
(Accum Units)	109.30	116.20	- 0.50	1.14
Technology	363.00	386.10	- 9.50	
UK Blue Chip	63.45	67.50†	- 0.46	2.77
(Accum Units)	70.96	75.49	- 0.51	2.77
PROVIDENT MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD 0171 588 3963				
Equity Gth	164.30	174.80†	- 1.30	1.90
European Gth	95.17	100.60	+ 0.30	0.39
Income & Gth #	123.70	131.60†	- 0.70	3.38
Japan Gth	110.80	117.70	+ 1.90	
Nth Amer Gth	114.10	121.40	- 1.50	0.17
Overseas Gth	84.39	89.78	- 0.39	
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0181 478 3377 Client Enq: 0171 911 4490				
Managed Tst	34.69	35.94†	- 0.34	1.83
Cash Hoven Inc	101.12	101.61†	+ 0.01	5.15
Cash Hoven Acc	111.67	112.22†	+ 0.01	5.15
Dist Trust Inc	91.37	94.68†	- 0.51	6.27
Dist Trust Acc	94.49	97.91†	- 0.52	6.27
Global Growth	83.06	88.36†	- 0.53	1.27
Equity Inc	75.52	80.34†	- 0.62	3.79
Equity	673.03	715.98	- 2.95	2.45
European	202.16	209.49	- 2.12	1.01
High Income	82.82	88.10†	- 2.37	5.28
Intl Grth	169.58	180.40	- 1.67	1.05
Intl Sm Co	71.45	76.01	- 0.86	0.51
Japanese	198.58	205.78†	- 2.66	..
Nth Amer	157.53	163.24	- 3.10	1.87
Pacific Mkts	90.93	94.22†	- 3.46	0.59
Premier Inc	45.79	47.65	- 0.52	6.93
Sm Cos	81.97	87.20	- 0.53	1.51
Spec Sits	100.87	107.30	- 0.55	2.34
UK Growth	112.57	119.75†	- 0.44	2.40
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD 01892 510 033				
British Life	281.40	298.40	.	3.43
For Rock Asset see Northern Rock				
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT Dealers: 0171 280 5000				
FA America (Inc)	483.75	514.90	- 6.82	0.45
FA America (Acc)	565.55	601.97	- 8.09	0.45
FA UK Equity Inc	146.03	155.81	- 0.61	3.89
FA Japan	241.57	258.90	- 2.63	.
FA Major UK Cos	88.34	94.20	- 0.37	2.61
FA Smllr UK Cos	273.91	298.44†	- 0.96	1.41
FA European	305.77	325.44	- 1.47	0.77
FA Amer Smllr Cos	41.48	44.54	- 0.48	0.15
FA Asia	42.94	46.12	- 1.02	0.15
FA Jap Smllr Cos	43.99	47.10	+ 0.52	
RAM Personal Pension				
UK Major Cos	89.88	94.60	- 0.36	
UK Smllr Cos	79.18	83.34	- 0.27	
Uk Income	88.66	93.32	- 0.38	
America	97.23	102.34	- 1.38	
Japanese	53.13	55.92	+ 0.57	
European	98.37	103.54	- 0.44	..
Gilt	84.82	89.28	- 0.88	
Deposit	83.73	88.13	+ 0.01	
Managed	92.06	96.89	- 0.35	
RAM PSAVC Scheme				
UK Major Cos	87.51	92.11	- 0.35	
UK Smaller Cos	77.34	81.40	- 0.27	
UK Income	86.49	91.03	- 0.36	
America	94.61	99.58	- 1.35	
Japanese	51.70	54.41	+ 0.54	
European	95.83	100.87	+ 0.45	
Gilt	83.86	88.27	- 0.71	..
Deposit	79.78	83.98	+ 0.02	..
Managed	85.77	90.28	- 0.48	..
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD Prices: 01733 282 828 Gen Enq: 01733 390 000				
United States	75.48	80.54	- 1.00	0.23
Pacific Basin	69.24	74.64	- 0.93	
High Inc Dist	126.30	135.00	- 0.50	5.26
Ryl Life Int Chry	55.22	58.73†	- 0.55	4.47
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	62.14	66.35	- 0.16	0.03
Ryl Life Intl Spec	58.62	62.35	- 0.23	.
UK Emerging Cos	117.60	127.10	- 0.90	1.21
UK Index Trckg	154.50	164.70	+ 1.40	3.54
European	123.60	132.60	+ 0.30	0.29
Managed	136.70	145.90†	- 0.90	0.81
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01206 764 400				
American Growth	138.20	146.30†	..	0.54
European Growth	107.20	113.30†	..	0.97
Far East Growth	120.00	127.70	..	0.51
Japan Growth	126.10	134.10	+ 2.70	..
Special Sits	178.60	189.90	..	1.67
Uk Growth	70.71	75.22	..	2.70
Tritox General	220.68	234.98		5.83
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD 0141 307 6500				
Far East Inc	144.90	153.30	- 3.90	0.11
Gtr Euro Prog Inc	319.70	338.30	- 2.40	0.83
(Accum Units)	497.00	525.90	- 3.80	0.83
Growth Inc	123.20	130.40	- 1.60	0.71
(Accum Units)	125.50	132.80	- 1.70	0.71
International Inc	315.20	333.50	- 4.20	1.32
(Accum Units)	432.30	457.50	- 5.60	1.32
Nth Am & Intl Inc	298.60	316.00	- 3.80	0.91
UK Gen Prog Inc	211.50	223.80	- 0.70	0.57
UK High Inc Inc	122.90	130.00	- 0.70	3.67
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD 0171 330 0572				
American Grth	59.45	63.24	- 1.51	
Amer Smlr Cos	71.01	75.53	- 1.98	..
Asian Grth	99.23	106.66†	- 2.76	0.75
European Grth	64.37	68.47	- 0.27	1.00
Global Bd	56.82	60.01†	- 0.17	5.00
Global Eq	55.29	58.81	- 0.85	0.50
Japanese Eq	48.55	51.65	- 0.20	
Japan Sm Cos	55.42	58.95†	- 0.35	
UK Gen	48.64	51.74	+ 0.01	2.80
UK Grth	55.34	58.87	+ 1.05	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP 01708 766 966				
Amer Inc & Grth #	64.91	69.05	- 0.79	4.32
Amer Smlr Cos	106.10	112.90†	- 0.70	.
Asian Smaller Cos	38.70	41.17	- 0.51	
Capital Portfolio	117.70	125.20	- 1.80	2.05
Cash	128.40	128.40		5.52
China Dragon	51.65	54.95	- 1.32	0.89
Commodity	112.00	119.10†	+ 0.90	0.42
Eastern Discovery	88.94	94.62	- 0.38	..
Emerging Mkts	32.94	35.04	- 0.56	0.45
Energy Inds	112.80	120.00†	- 0.90	0.81
European Grth	179.70	191.20	+ 1.30	..
Euro Inc & Grth #	74.27	79.01†	+ 0.47	1.35
Euro Smlr Cos	52.23	55.56	+ 0.66	..
Extra Income #	48.79	50.43†	- 0.30	6.14
Financial Secs	190.90	203.10	- 1.70	1.72
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc #	45.76	48.30†	- 0.37	9.70
Gold & Exploration	69.12	73.53†	+ 1.87	..
High Return #	211.40	224.90	- 1.20	4.52
High Yield #	213.10	226.70	- 1.70	4.25
Income #	110.50	117.50†	- 0.80	4.77
Intl Bond	156.10	164.90†	- 0.20	5.94
ITU	189.10	201.20	- 2.90	1.58
Japan Growth	161.20	171.50	+ 1.30	.
Japan Smaller	164.70	175.20	+ 2.20	.
Korea	58.34	62.06	+ 0.09	.
Mastertund	51.32	54.80	- 0.17	1.33
Scotbits	288.80	307.20	- 2.40	1.48
Scotshares #	269.70	286.90	- 2.50	2.61
Scotyields #	219.90	233.90†	- 2.0	4.17
Select Intl	126.50	134.60	- 1.30	0.38
Smaller Cos Inc #	228.90	243.50	- 0.80	4.13
SE Asia	47.95	51.01	- 0.98	
Special Situation	116.70	124.10	- 1.0	1.05
UK Equity #	226.10	240.50†	- 2.30	3.12
UK Growth	80.20	84.04	- 0.49	1.56
UK & O'seas	152.20	161.90	- 1.10	1.33
UK Smllr Cos Grth	44.02	48.83†	- 0.08	0.87
US Growth	139.80	148.70†	- 1.70	0.48
Univ Growth	127.10	135.20	- 1.30	0.77
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD Cint: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	240.76	255.81	- 0.70	0.95
(Accum Units)	262.97	279.41	- 0.76	0.96
European Grth	71.27	75.70	- 0.20	0.91
Euro Smllr Cos	76.00	81.00	- 0.57	0.37
Far Eastern Gth	85.54	91.24†	- 1.79	.
(Accum Units)	87.09	92.89	- 1.82	.
Gilt & Fixed Int #	48.49	51.12†	- 0.07	8.15
Global Bond #	47.77	49.37	- 0.02	7.30
(Accum Units) #	52.41	54.17	- 0.01	7.30
Global Emer Mkts	44.83	47.81	- 0.90	
(Accum Units)	44.83	47.87	- 0.90	
Income #	324.38	346.00†	+ 1.22	5.53
(Accum Units) #	£10.31	£11.00	+ 3.90	5.53
Japan Smllr Cos	445.67	475.36	+ 0.18	..
(Accum Units)	446.57	476.33	+ 0.18	..
Japan Enterprise	62.72	66.90	- 0.41	
Pacific Gth	116.55	124.32†	- 3.27	0.41
(Accum Units)	120.32	128.33	- 3.38	0.41
Portfolio	74.79	79.77†	- 0.01	2.26
(Accum Units)	81.24	86.65	- 0.02	2.26
Scout	45.23	48.59	+ 0.05	
(Accum Units)	45.23	48.59	+ 0.05	
Smaller Cos	200.08	213.39	- 0.45	1.54
Tokyo	113.83	121.41†	- 0.43	
(Accum Units)	114.98	122.64	- 0.43	.
UK Enterprise	235.65	251.57	+ 1.29	2.31
(Accum Units)	282.93	301.78	+ 1.54	2.31
UK Equity	223.93	238.85	- 0.86	2.95
(Accum Units)	435.12	464.13	+ 1.67	2.95
US Smlr Cos	153.42	163.64	- 1.11	.
(Accum Units)	44.59	48.44	- 0.39	0.68
Institutional Funds				
European	227.10	235.93†	- 0.97	1.29
(Accum Units)	252.86	262.69	- 1.09	1.29
Euro Smlr Cos	28.12	29.29	+ 0.04	1.67
(Accum Units)	29.83	31.07	+ 0.04	1.67
Global Equity Inc	72.81	75.84	- 0.22	0.97
Japan Smllr Cos	36.58	38.10	+ 0.53	0.27
(Accum Units)	36.87	38.40	+ 0.54	0.27
Mngo Balanced	178.32	183.66	..	2.93
(Accum Units)	198.92	207.21	+ 0.01	2.93
Overseas Equity	174.82	182.10	- 0.65	1.27
(Accum Units)	181.01	188.54	- 0.68	1.27
Oseas Smlr Cos	117.95	122.86†	- 0.14	0.75
(Accum Units)	123.20	128.33	- 0.14	0.75
Pacific	219.94	229.10	- 5.01	1.41
(Accum Units)	240.00	249.99	- 5.47	1.41
Recovery	£16.84	£17.65†	- 3.01	3.18
(Accum Units)	£17.91	£18.66	- 3.18	3.18
UK Index	143.27	149.23	- 0.82	3.71
(Accum Units)	174.77	182.05	- 1.00	3.71
UK Small Cos	105.76	110.16†	- 0.26	2.99
(Accum Units)	113.37	118.09	- 0.28	2.99
US Smlr Cos	43.61	45.63	- 0.28	0.68
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD 0141 204 2200				
Equity Income	46.46	49.50	- 0.46	3.95
Equity Trust	56.54	60.22	- 0.77	3.24
Equity Strategy	66.59	70.92	- 0.53	2.06
European Opps	83.05	88.45	+ 0.30	1.04
Uk Smaller Cos	58.41	62.21	+ 0.01	1.42
Moderate Inc	98.21	100.76	- 0.91	7.31
Japanese	70.80	75.40	- 0.33	
Asia Pacific	106.50	113.42	- 2.64	1.43
American	93.58	99.66	- 1.62	0.70
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD 0800 454 422				
Cash	31.00	31.00		5.974
UK General Inc	48.26	51.47	- 0.39	2.84
(Accum Units)	61.97	66.10	- 0.77	2.84
Intl Income	246.30	262.30†	- 0.90	1.01
(Accum Units)	422.90	450.20†	- 1.60	1.01
European	75.71	80.38	- 0.08	1.47
Japan	64.64	68.52	+ 0.75	0.06
American	62.88	66.56†	- 0.92	1.92
Far East	77.38	82.52	- 0.94	0.76
Ethical Inc	27.79	29.72†	- 0.10	2.15
UK Blue Chip Inc	31.27	33.44†	- 0.13	2.26
High Inc Inc	33.59	35.83	- 0.24	3.44

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Global Inc	36.89	39.26†	- 0.36	1.57
Wwide Tact	64.50	68.81†	- 0.23	1.25
Europe 2000 Tact	50.61	53.86	+ 0.06	1.51
Technology	102.47	109.11†	- 0.53	1.51
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 0131 225 2211				
UK Equity	356.70	379.80	- 2.56	3.12
American	244.40	259.60	- 4.80	0.59
Pacific	348.60	372.80	- 6.10	0.81
European	528.80	565.60	- 2.30	1.42
Worldwide	81.56	87.25	- 1.22	0.75
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD 0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	248.50	264.40	- 1.10	2.55
(Accum Units)	313.60	333.70	- 1.10	2.55
UK Sh Co Eq Inc	184.80	196.60	- 1.00	2.53
(Accum Units)	221.40	235.60	- 1.08	2.53
Select Opps Inc	61.31	65.56†	- 0.34	2.25
Income Plus Inc	85.21	89.38†	- 0.99	4.45
European Inc	327.10	348.00	- 2.60	0.49
(Accum Units)	369.50	393.10	- 2.60	0.49
Far Eastern Inc	155.00	164.90	- 5.00	0.86
(Accum Units)	176.40	187.70	- 5.08	0.86
Japanese Inc	57.03	60.66	- 0.28	
Nth American Inc	223.80	238.10	- 4.70	0.68
(Accum Units)	246.30	262.10	- 4.70	0.68
Intl Growth Inc	185.40	197.30	- 3.28	0.72
Wwide Venture Inc	74.12	78.86†	- 0.98	1.91
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT 0131 655 3724				
Equity Inc	338.70	361.20	- 2.60	3.00
(Accum Units)	498.70	529.70	- 3.90	3.00
UK High Inc	170.60	181.96	- 1.90	4.87
(Accum Units)	246.20	262.60	- 2.80	4.07
Europe Inc	348.90	372.10	+ 2.30	0.63
Nth Amer Inc	204.30	217.90	- 3.20	.
Global Inc	186.18	198.40	- 1.50	0.33
UK Spec Sits Inc	92.32	98.33	- 0.70	3.48
South East Asia	198.50	211.80	- 3.10	0.52
Cash Trust Inc	101.00	101.00		5.59
Uk Smllr Cos Inc	94.72	101.00	+ 0.20	2.27
(Accum Units)	98.87	103.30	+ 0.20	2.27
Intl Bond Inc	88.86	94.37	..	6.53
SEMPER EADEM FUND MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Sector Recovery	134.90	141.70†	- 2.90	4.71
SHARP (ALBERT E) Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
European	120.90	127.30	..	0.86
Nth American	98.42	103.60	- 1.20	0.30
Intl Bond & Conv	118.50	124.70	- 0.20	5.71
Pooled Pension (C)	171.40	184.30	- 0.80	2.39
Smaller Cos	69.43	73.08	- 0.12	1.55
UK General	119.00	125.30	- 0.80	2.11
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 0171 626 6235				
Amer Gth Fund‡	94.90	...	- 1.25	..
Amex‡	60.15	.	- 3.34	..
European‡	120.10	.	- 1.60	.
Global Bond‡	93.08	..	- 0.33	7.72
Samurai‡	61.65	..	- 0.48	.
UK Growth‡	94.04	..	- 0.51	2.92
Tar Pant‡	92.65	.	- 1.49	.
UK Emerg Leaders‡	97.92	.	+ 0.46	1.43
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS 0171 637 5377				
American	296.90	314.20†	+ 5.90	..
Canadian	59.93	63.41	+ 0.94	1.82
Capital	112.50	120.50†	- 1.30	1.54
Cash	101.82	101.82	+ 0.02	6.10
European	129.70	137.10	+ 1.30	0.75
Far Eastern	142.00	150.20	+ 2.40	..
Growth	120.30	127.20†	- 4.60	1.22
Income	116.80	123.50†	- 2.50	6.04
Magnum	120.90	128.60	- 1.80	1.55
Smllr Secs	347.80	367.80	- 1.00	1.10
Thoroughbred	140.20	150.30	- 2.00	1.41
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01202 298 422				
Cash	50.23	50.73	.	5.18
Cntfid Prfnnce	52.48	55.98†	- 0.16	8.30
Ethical	51.95	55.27†	- 0.28	2.98
European Growth	70.83	75.34	- 0.28	3.80
Income	51.34	54.76	- 0.28	6.20
Intl Growth	93.56	99.80	- 0.80	3.08
Managed	78.31	83.53	- 0.40	3.90
Uk Growth	57.60	61.44†	- 0.30	3.60
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS 0800 393 777				
Standard Life Fund Magmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	36.28	38.47†	- 0.20	1.98
Global Advtg Acc	36.91	39.11	- 0.20	1.98
Income Advtg Inc	[illegible]	29.84†	- 0.60	4.18
Income Advtg Acc	32.91	33.08	- 0.60	4.18
UK Equity Gth Acc	60.58	64.22	- 0.40	1.60
Standard Life Tst Magmt Ltd				
Managed Acc	47.41	50.38	- 0.20	1.79
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	34.10	36.24	- 0.30	4.18
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	42.24	44.88	- 0.30	4.18
UK Equity Gen Acc	57.79	61.41	- 0.80	2.34
UK Equity Gen Inc	42.75	45.43	- 0.60	2.34
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	29.76	31.48	- 0.39	6.24
Oseas Lrg Co Acc	292.90	317.90	+ 2.19	1.66
Nth American Acc	42.40	45.08	+ 0.10	0.93
Far East Acc	63.68	67.66	+ 0.90	0.28
European Acc	50.16	53.30	+ 0.20	0.90
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD 0171 344 7000				
Global A (£/$)	3.625	3.850	- 0.012	1.45
US Eqts (US$)	2.412	2.562	- 0.008	0.88
Far East Eqts (yen)	212.50	225.70	+ 3.58	...
Japan Eqties (yen)	199.70	212.20	+ 1.70	..
FT Europe	120.90	128.40	- 1.90	1.54
FT N Amer (US$)	1.835	1.945	+ 0.018	0.82
FT Japan (yen)	199.70	212.20	+ 1.70	..
FT Asia Ex Jap (US$)	2.288	2.430	- 0.080	0.98
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0131 226 3271				
American	353.30	378.20	- 4.00	.
British #	930.50	984.50†	- 2.00	4.02
Emging Mkts	123.20	131.20	- 4.00	..
European	521.80	555.70	- 0.20	0.61
Japan	136.20	144.70	- 0.60	..
New Pacific	342.10	364.30	- 7.00	0.77
(Accum Units)	360.60	384.00	- 7.40	0.77
Inv Trust Acc	237.20	251.50	- 1.60	0.90
Mngd Equity	161.50	170.90	- 0.90	1.55
Mngd Cash	96.05	96.05	+ 0.01	5.76
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 388				
Equity	761.00	813.90	- 1.70	3.25
North America	115.10	123.10	- 2.10	1.20
Far East	129.30	138.30	- 3.10	0.40
Wwide Bond	55.60	59.02	- 0.35	5.14
European	98.08	104.90	- 0.80	0.17
Equity Income	83.38	89.18	- 0.15	4.75
Portfolio	79.33	84.84	- 0.68	2.82
UK Leading Cos	56.45	60.21	+ 0.01	3.23
Broker Trusts				
Intl Equity	61.48	65.77	+ 0.34	.
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD 0800 525 725				
American Growth	31.75	33.96	- 0.34	0.77
Managed Assets	116.52	125.77	- 0.66	2.89
UK Income	38.02	40.67	- 0.26	3.50
UK Growth	36.14	38.66	- 0.12	2.70
Worldwide Growth	32.86	35.15	- 0.33	0.87
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD Admin & Enq: 0171 606 4044 Dlg: 0171 606 6010				
Discretionary	44.90	47.77	+ 0.24	
Cap Protector Inc	39.16	41.88	- 0.26	2.71
Uk Income Inc	47.10	50.37	- 0.05	3.18
Mngn Eqts Inc Inc	30.98	33.13	- 0.17	3.70
Mngd High Yld Inc	74.14	79.29	- 0.12	4.29
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	69.60	74.44	- 0.08	3.37
UK Smaller Cos	31.92	34.14	- 0.06	1.90
Pacific Grth Port	41.70	44.60†	- 1.03	0.38
TSB UNIT TRUSTS 01264 346 794				
American	196.62	208.06	- 3.35	.
(Accum Units)	216.57	229.17	- 3.68	
Brit Growth	90.54	95.81	- 0.92	2.33
(Accum Units)	108.95	115.29	- 1.11	2.33
European	99.57	105.38†	- 0.48	0.77
(Accum Units)	105.89	112.04†	- 0.52	0.77
Extra Income	178.08	188.45†	- 0.93	4.65
(Accum Units)	306.70	324.55†	- 1.67	4.65
Smaller Cos	66.29	70.15†	- 0.41	1.79
(Accum Units)	74.75	79.11†	- 0.46	1.79
General	260.48	275.84†	- 1.11	2.71
(Accum Units)	539.18	570.56	- 2.38	2.71
Premier Income	48.88	48.83	- 0.43	6.52
(Accum Units)	107.10	111.56	- 0.88	6.52
Income	307.50	325.40	- 1.72	4.25
(Accum Units)	674.24	713.48	- 3.76	4.25
Pacific	371.04	392.64	- 5.82	...
(Accum Units)	389.87	412.56	- 6.12	..
International	495.88	524.74	- 4.81	0.35
(Accum Units)	652.05	690.00	- 6.33	0.35
Nat Resources	141.19	149.40	+ 0.71	..
Sktd Opps	98.23	103.95†	- 1.76	1.74
(Accum Units)	125.76	133.08†	- 2.26	1.74
Environmental Inv	58.48	61.87†	- 0.32	1.90
Selector	57.90	61.27	- 0.35	2.40
(Accum Units)	65.31	69.11	- 0.40	2.40
High Income	60.05	63.55	- 0.31	5.62
(Accum Units)	76.50	80.98	- 0.39	5.62
Intl Income	56.15	59.42	- 0.27	5.14
(Accum Units)	69.04	73.06	- 0.33	5.14
Selector Income	57.43	60.77	- 0.32	5.04
(Accum Units)	67.44	71.37	- 0.39	5.04
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED 0181 667 1018				
British	301.30	317.10	- 1.00	2.97
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	188.74	201.86	- 2.74	2.01
Glob Balncd Inc	161.68	172.92	- 2.02	3.76
Value Tst Inc	114.44	122.39	- 1.12	1.87
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0171 246 3000 Dealing: 0171 246 3001				
Dresdna Eur Bd	39.40	41.43†	+ 0.13	7.70
European Growth	261.31	277.02†	- 2.87	0.50
Exempt	492.31	514.66	- 1.77	3.20
Global Em Mkts	70.19	74.66	- 1.68	0.40
Japan Tst	73.28	77.81	- 0.28	
Little Dragons	78.95	84.21	- 2.49	
Nth Amer Enth	215.34	229.44	- 4.88	0.68
Oriental Income	41.12	43.86	- 0.71	2.50
Preference	125.58	134.31	- 0.58	8.70
Tiger	244.46	260.75	- 7.84	..
(Accum Units)	256.82	273.94	- 8.03	..
UK Blue Chip	57.90	61.78	- 0.08	2.10
UK Growth	471.09	503.83	- 2.96	2.50
UK High Yield	97.16	103.91	- 0.22	4.80
(Accum Units)	315.24	337.15	- 0.77	4.80
UK Mid-Cap	232.16	248.29	- 3.26	2.50
UK Smllr Cos	94.65	101.22†	- 0.48	1.20
UK Smlr Cos Div	83.03	88.80	- 0.41	5.59
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD 01277 690 396				
UK Equity Income	93.47	99.01†	- 0.17	3.29
UK Equity Growth	82.12	87.38†	- 0.07	2.68
European	67.25	71.54	- 0.18	1.03
Nth American	66.09	70.31	- 0.80	1.25
Far Eastern	65.38	69.53	- 0.87	0.93
Money	87.33	87.33	..	4.26
Fixed Interest	70.14	74.62†	- 0.41	6.63
Index Linked Gilt	84.10	86.19†	- 0.38	1.36
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0131 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	23.31	24.53	+ 0.86	..
Pacific Basin	40.63	42.76	- 0.44	.
Global Bond (US$)	0.85	0.89	- 0.00	.
Penny Share	31.49	33.14	- 0.40	..
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 600 0482				
Challenger	92.04	94.18	- 1.18	.
Short Dtd Gilt	110.20	111.70	- 0.80	.
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.73	0.74	+ 0.00	0.84
Gilt Income	48.52	50.49	- 0.58	7.75
Gilt Growth	68.02	70.80	- 1.04	
City Reserve	52.19	53.18	+ 0.01	5.75
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0181 298 4000				
Intl Mgd	46.94	49.75	+ 0.03	1.28
UK Stockmarket	73.84	78.54	+ 0.07	2.72

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; .. No significant data; # Periodic Charge deducted from capital; @ Exit Charge.

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هكذا من الأصل



Profits double at Bluebird Toys: Torquil Norman, left, Mighty Max and Chris Burgin, chief executive

Standard starts Far East review

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE future of Standard Chartered's equities business in the Far East is in doubt after running up losses in 1994.

The bank has begun a review of its investment banking operations, trying to find ways of cutting the high fixed costs of the business.

Malcolm Williamson, Standard Chartered's chief executive, said the equities business was most likely to be affected as it is not "as central to our core as the debt side". He said that core operations were in the capital and debt markets, as the central strength of the bank was in trade finance.

The review has been started by John McFarlane, head of the investment banking. It appears likely that equities will be scaled back, either through closure or sale to a bank that is trying to build up its equities business in the region. Meanwhile, yesterday, Mr Williamson unveiled a 27 per cent increase in profits at Standard Chartered to £510 million in 1994. Investment banking made a loss of £21 million.

Earnings per share were up 36 per cent to 32.7p and the annual dividend has been increased by 33 per cent to 8p, with the final payment of 5.75p due on June 2. The charge for bad debts fell from £233 million to £122 million.

Standard Chartered employs 500 people in its equities operations, mainly in Hong Kong and Asia Pacific. Peter Wood, finance director, said the main reasons for the investment banking losses were high fixed costs and much lower volumes than in 1993.

The bank has been looking at ways of reducing the number of sites from which the business operates, and of centralising back office functions in regional hubs.

Commercial banking profits were more than doubled to £316 million after lower bad debts. Treasury profits fell from £159 million to £99 million in "a difficult year for the industry", said Mr Williamson.

Geographically, Hong Kong contributed 44 per cent of trading profits, down from 61 per cent the previous year. Trading profits in the UK were £95 million in spite of a fall in treasury and investment banking earnings, helped by lower bad debts.

Patrick Gillam, the chairman, said the bank planned to concentrate on personal and private banking, institutional banking, custody services, corporate banking, and treasury and investment banking.

He said the bank would grow by expanding its existing operations in countries whose economies are growing, and through acquisition, though he had nothing particular in mind.

Mighty Max performs mighty well

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

THE continuing appeal of Polly Pocket and Mighty Max helped double profits at Bluebird Toys, the toy manufacturer and distributor, last year. Pre-tax profits jumped to £19.7 million from £9.8 million in 1994 on sales up 44 per cent to £99.4 million.

Torquil Norman, chairman, said 1994 had been an exceptional year with strong demand at home and abroad. Overseas sales rose 55 per cent and now account for almost two thirds of total turnover. UK sales were up by 30 per cent in spite of a flat market.

Worlwide sales of Polly Pocket, the group's leading brand, were boosted by the introduction of Polly's Tiny World, a range of miniature doll's houses. Mighty Max also made progress, but faces increasing competition from Mighty Morfin Power Rangers, the latest toy fad.

A final dividend of 6p (4p) brings the total payout to 8p (4p) and will be paid to shareholders on May 24.



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Half year to 31st December 1994

	1993	1994	
Profit before tax	£38.6m	£50.8m	+32%
Earnings per ordinary share	6.4p	8.5p	+33%
Dividend per ordinary share	1.95p	2.25p	+15%

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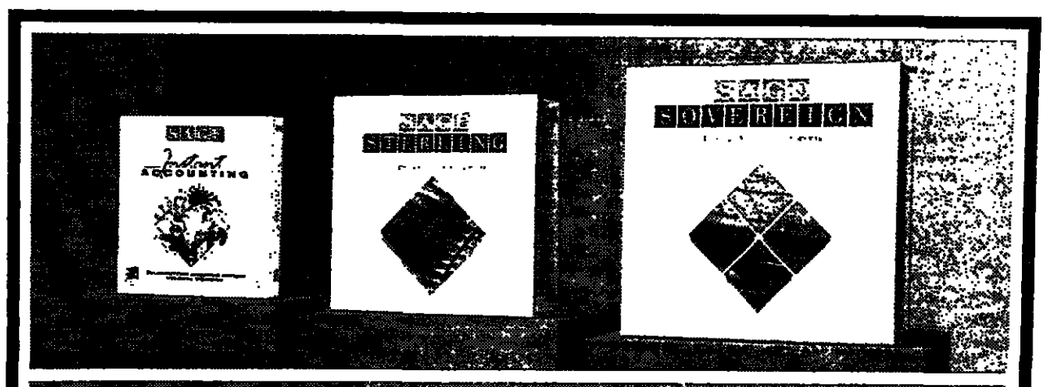
A year of significant progress

- Record pre-tax operating profit from continuing activities of £413m (1993 £218m).
- Full year dividend increased by 8% to 26.40p (1993 24.52p).
- Life profits increase to £154m (1993 £121m).
- Improved general insurance results of £347m (1993 £187m).
- Acquisition of Groupe Victoire, a leading French insurer.

	12 months 1994 Unaudited	12 months 1993 Restated
Total premium income	£6,762m	£5,970m
Operating profit before taxation and loss on termination of activities	£413m	£218m
Operating profit after taxation and loss on termination of activities *(note 1)*	£311m	£188m
Profit attributable to shareholders *(note 2)*	£349m	£321m
Operating profit per share *(note 3)*	49.9p	31.0p
Dividend per share *(note 3)*	26.40p	24.52p
Shareholders' funds *(note 4)*	£3,173m	£3,553m

Notes:
1. A loss of £11m was incurred in terminating unprofitable activities (1993 £7m).
2. Profit attributable to shareholders includes realised investment gains after taxation of £38m (1993 £133m).
3. The 1993 dividend and operating profit per share have been adjusted for the effect of the 1994 rights issue.
4. The 1993 shareholders' funds have been restated to include a value of the in-force life business.

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Payout to rise at Hays

BY MARTIN BARROW

HAYS, the business services group, said it was actively seeking acquisitions in Britain and continental Europe to capitalise on improving economic conditions.

The company is increasing the interim dividend by 15 per cent to 2.25p a share, to be paid on May 31, after a rise in profits to £50.8 million before tax from £38.6 million in the half year to December 31. Earnings were 8.5p a share, compared with 6.4p.

Ronnie Frost, executive chairman said each of the company's three core activities of distribution, commercial and personnel, lifted profits. As a result, group operating profits advanced 30 per cent to £53.8 million from £41.5 million on turnover rising to £377.8 million from £290.9 million.

Distribution, the company's principal activity, increased profits to £26.4 million from £23.4 million.

T&N reduces dividend over asbestos

BY ERIC REGULY

T&N, the automotive components group, yesterday announced it will cut its annual dividend in 1995 to help to pay for an unexpectedly high £140 million exceptional charge related to asbestos.

The company, which is based in Manchester, will reduce its payout this year to 6p a share from 10.85p, saving about £40 million annually. It marks the first dividend cut in recent memory.

Colin Hope, chairman and chief executive, said that the new dividend level does not reflect the company's longer-term health. "Next year, we'll have another look at it," he said. "This is probably a short-term reduction."

He said asbestos-related charges this year were expected to range between £40 million and £50 million, followed by a similar charge in 1996.

The £140 million charge for asbestos-related disease claims in the United States reduced the company's pre-tax profit in 1994 to £10.7 million, compared with £70.3 million in the previous year. Analysts had expected a charge closer to £100 million. Turnover increased 16 per cent to £1.94 billion.

Trading profits before the charge climbed 47 per cent to £180.4 million while earnings per share rose by 53 per cent to 19.3p.

The company, whose main products are car-engine parts such as pistons, rings, bearings and camshafts, said all three of its divisions reported improved results and that sales remained strong into early 1995.

T&N gave warning, however, that there are "some uncertainties" as to how long the high demand from car-makers will last.

Separately, Mr Hope said that T&N has resubmitted its bid for Kolbenschmidt, the German automotive components maker, to the Germany's competition watchdog, which last month blocked its takeover attempt.

T&N, formerly known as Turner & Newall, has an option to buy 52.5 per cent of Kolbenschmidt for £118 million. "We remain confident that we can work something out," Mr Hope said.

T&N shares closed at 157½p, down 2.5p.



Pre-tax profits at Wyevale Garden Centres, whose chairman is John Rudgard, above, grew to £6.7 million last year (£4.4 million). A final dividend of 1.91p makes a total of 4.84p (4.4p).

Groupe Victoire helps to lift CU

BY SARAH BAGNALL
INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

A FIRST-TIME contribution from Groupe Victoire, the French insurance company acquired last October for £1.43 billion, together with strong growth in UK general insurance results helped to lift profits at Commercial Union to record levels in the year to December 31.

Pre-tax operating profits rose from £211 million to £402 million on premium income of £6.8 billion, up from £6 billion last time. There was a £28 million reorganisation charge for its operation in The Netherlands, against a £20 million charge last time.

Groupe Victoire contributed £11 million to group profits, reflecting a £14 million general insurance loss offset by a £25 million life profit. As a result of the acquisition, CU's life operations will comprise 40 per cent of group premiums, up from 36 per cent.

Overall, CU's general insurance operations lifted profits from £187 million to £347 million on premiums of £4.3 billion, up from £4 billion last time. The engine for growth was the UK operations, which raised profits from £113 million to £220 million. Life profits rose from £121 million to £154 million on premiums up from £1.9 billion to £2.4 billion.

The final dividend, payable on May 17, was lifted to 16.3p, making a total for the year of 26.4p, up from 24.5p last time. The dividend is being paid out of earnings of 49.9p a share, up from a restated 31p.

First for Irish Permanent

BY ROBERT MILLER

IRISH PERMANENT, the building society turned bank, yesterday celebrated its first set of annual results since becoming a public company in October, with a maiden net dividend of 6p.

It reported a pre-tax profit for last year of Ir£35.1 million, against Ir£30.8 million previously. Group assets rose to a record Ir£3.65 billion, including Ir£359 million of life assurance assets attributable to policyholders, against £2.7 billion last time. Bad debt provision fell by Ir£1.7 million to Ir£2.1 million.

THE TIMES
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A Personal Equity Plan (PEP) is a way of investing money out of the reach of the tax man and *The Times*, in association with TSB Bank, is offering you the chance to win a £6,000 PEP.

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Collect four of the six tokens which are appearing this week and send them on a postcard with the answer to Saturday's questions plus the tie-breaker by March 15, 1995 to: *The Times* Win a PEP Competition, Week 3, 16 Whitefriars Street, EC4B 2NG. The winner will be selected from all correct entries received by the closing date.

* Source: Micropal offer-to-offer, income not reinvested. (As at 18.2.95).

THE TIMES
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Hambro Countrywide loss

BY MARTIN BARROW

HAMBRO Countrywide, the largest estate agency group in Britain after its acquisition of Nationwide Estate Agents, incurred pre-tax losses of £3.86 million last year.

The company, which sold almost 50,000 homes and arranged mortgages worth a total of £776 million, attributed losses of £6.4 million to its estate agency business, with further losses of £614,000 in the commercial and professional division. There is a nominal dividend of 0.05p (0.25p).

In 1993 Hambro's profits of £16.48 million before tax included a £12.16 million surplus on the sale of an interest in Hambro Legal Protection.

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      (iii) The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland
      (iv) The Chartered Association of Certified Accountants
   or
   (b) Be a holder of a University Degree in Accounting or a related discipline and have adequate relevant experience.
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ACCOUNTANCY

Benefits of internal auditors

David Brilliant outlines the need for sound control consciousness

The current debate in relation to the latest corporate disaster, Barings, brings home once again the need for sound control consciousness among directors and senior management of all businesses with a duty to shareholders.

We have another persuasive case for adopting the principles of the Cadbury Committee on Corporate Governance and confirmation of the need for an independent control expert and review function in the internal auditor.

A professionally qualified auditor and team would ensure business risks and risks of doing business are properly understood; that control objectives are established and a sound internal control framework is in place throughout, balancing the cost of control against protection from unnecessary risks and reducing the possibility of fraud.

This latest example of huge loss from a failure of basic controls appears to demonstrate the internal audit function of Barings was performing its role both in identifying the issues and reporting them to the appropriate level. The failure is that management did not act appropriately or quickly to correct the weaknesses in control and re-establish effective management supervision and did not ensure the relevant management information in regard to risk exposure and trading results were received from reliable independent sources.

The lesson to be learned is that a board of directors should be properly constituted with an appropriate number of experienced and competent non-executive directors, who should form the audit committee. This should receive the internal auditors' reports and ensure they are actioned in a specified time.

Audit committees should also be satisfied that the internal auditing function is sufficiently resourced and independent, with authority to perform its role and provide the services of control expert and assessor of the adequacy and effectiveness of internal controls throughout the year.

Good control and the requisite framework to ensure its continued adequacy and effectiveness is a cost of doing business like any other expense and needs to be of a quality appropriate to the business balanced with the cost benefit. At present, some directors fail to recognise the risks let alone the need for



David Brilliant says Barings's auditors acted correctly

appropriate controls — and may never — until it is too late.

There are the golden rules: Identify and quantify primary risks inherent in the business. Designed to ensure business is carried out in a properly authorised manner, assures retention of assets and profits and maintains accurate accounting records and management information reports.

Only effective internal audit has the independence, authority and resources to carry out its role of evaluating adequacy and effectiveness of, as well as being a control consultant to management; the expert in control.

Properly designed controls to meet the risk objective that are practicable in implementation and operation. Good control culture is dependent on clear commitment from the directors down, both to the need for, and reliance on, a strong control environment. Dependent on control-conscious attitude of employees exercising controls — in turn dependent on positive "tone from the top." That directors and management are committed to a good control environment, that it is important and will be rewarded. Management takes responsibility for control and demonstrates it is "owned by management".

Controls are only as good as the people in whom they are vested — relies on separation of transaction-recording from asset-movement or risk-taking, in turn independent of checks and balances or reconciliation processes (i.e. independent checks).

Overlaying the control framework is effective management review and supervision, which provides direction, oversight and source of authority to those operating controls as well as counsel when problems are identified.

Healthy scepticism and independence of thought is essential if we are to rely on the control responsibility vested in all employees. Internal auditing is responsible for ensuring controls are appropriate to the risks and needs of the business, that they may be relied on and operate effectively.

The author is managing director of the auditing division of Chemical Bank and president of the Institute of Internal Auditors in the UK

Reworking the elitist route to the top

STUDENT numbers are the key to the future health of any accountancy body. That is why the English ICA has produced its remarkable initiative to encourage the training of its students in smaller firms — and why it has dropped its long-trumpeted insistence that it should impose an all-graduate-entry prerequisite.

Until about 25 years ago, the traditional way into the English ICA's ranks was via the smaller firms and with a background of O or A levels. But as accountancy became the fastest growing and most sought-after profession, it became possible to go for a graduate-only entry. The English ICA chose the elitist route. Now, as student numbers plummet, that is being reversed. And some of the English ICA's old rivals are finding it hard not to crow about it. It is also pointing the way to an even greater fragmentation of the English ICA's membership.

In many ways, it is back to basics. In the past, there was a much greater prospect of new entrants to the profession gaining first-class, first-hand experience at a much earlier stage in their career. Many a senior partner in the large firms will, in private, bemoan the fact that in their day in a much smaller organisation it was possible to work alongside senior partners and learn early on how decisions were taken and clients dealt with.



ROBERT BRUCE

Young accountants became used to taking important decisions at that early stage and learnt the importance of using their instincts. This is partly what Colin Sharman, senior partner at KPMG, is talking about when he mentions pushing the decision-making process down the organisational structure. But it was also true that many a school-leaver who went straight into accountancy articles learnt much in a small provincial, or London, firm. Above all, they became the bedrock of small accounting firms.

Since the profession went all-graduate, the move has been for the real training of students to pass to the large firms. It became, at the height of the mid-1980s boom, a massive business, with firms taking on as many as 800 students each autumn. The rules on study leave became stiffer and students no longer paid for tuition themselves. The profession had not only become all-graduate, it had turned the depth and expense of the training into a perk to attract students. The smaller firms, by and large, stopped training students for the English ICA exams.

Other bodies stepped into the breach. If they trained anyone at all, the smaller firms took to training certified accountants, for whom lengthy weeks of study leave was not mandatory, and accounting technicians.

The English ICA, as long as student intakes were buoyant, could ignore this. But numbers have almost halved in recent years. And, even if an unexpected boom does occur, no one is predicting an equivalent boom in students. The large firms are leaner now. This is why members of the institute received a placatory letter last week. It said: "Today our institute is launching a major initiative to encourage smaller firms to train chartered accountant students." It went on to say that, "from today, students will only require two A levels as a minimum before entering into a training contract; students' paid study leave will be discretionary; and the payment of tuition and examination fees will also be an area for negotiation between the student and the employer."

The institute says that quality must not suffer. But the other accounting bodies, particularly the certified accountants, who have had to suffer the English ICA arguing its elitist line, are now smiling quietly . They even managed a practical joke last week. Noticing the much-hyped English ICA advertising campaign had concentrated on warning the public about using unqualified accountants, the Association of Certified Accountants dusted down one of its most persistent campaigns. "ACCA calls for a register of qualified accountants", read the press release. A register would provide exactly the same protection from unqualified accountants that the English ICA's poster campaign seems to urge. But as the certified accountants know, the English ICA has always abhorred such an idea. Getting together with those that it sees as the hoi-polloi is not the English ICA's idea of protecting the public.

The new campaign to encourage smaller firms to train students again may not work, but it accentuates the split in the English ICA's auditing membership. Tomorrow, KPMG's partners decide whether to incorporate. Such an organisation would be further away than ever from fellow members in rural England training bright young people with A levels.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

On the ball at Murrayfield

THE English ICA may have launched a much-hyped poster campaign with the slogan "It's easier to sleep with a chartered accountant". But the other bodies are not far behind — though their methods may differ. The Scots ICA launched a poster campaign last weekend and didn't tell anyone. But Welsh accountants, in particular, will have noticed. As the Scots rugby forwards drove in the second try in the Scotland-Wales international at Murrayfield last Saturday, the advertising hoardings behind bore the Scots ICA's CA logo and trumpeted "The Mark of Quality".

Fraud chasing

MEANWHILE, Scots lawyers were feeling sore at KPMG, the accountancy group. Last week, the firm launched its Fraud Barometer, which tracks the incidence of major fraud. This showed that lawyers and financial advisers accounted for the majority of fraud in Scotland. *The Scotsman* promptly ran a leader column saying that "the stereotypical image of lawyers as charlatans who would boil their grannies down for glue if given the chance is apparently borne out by KPMG's fraud barometer". What the locals would call "a stushie" ensued, with the Law Society of Scotland particularly indignant. And who audits the Law Society you might ask? KPMG, of course.

All that jazz

THE public-sector accountancy body CIPFA has always been noted for its good iconoclastic ways. Last week's annual dinner at Merchant Taylors' Hall in the City not only had no speeches, but also had a group of students from Guildhall School of Music playing jazz during the meal. It has to be the only time that the distinguished guests on the top table have entered to the strains of a bebop number.

A TRENCHANT judgment of the Barings crash comes from the chairman of one of Britain's largest financial services companies. "In my young days", he said, "if someone at an overseas branch was remitting enormous and unlikely profits, there was only one course of action. Sack him. He was bound to be up to no good."

ROBERT BRUCE

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They now wish to appoint a specialist to work closely with the Sales and Customer Support functions. Reporting directly to the Credit Manager for Europe, the appointment is responsible for providing support to the sales and customer service functions within the UK.

Candidates must have solid experience of evaluating credit ratings with skills in negotiating and obtaining customer financing from external sources such as banks and finance companies. Credit control and enforcement experience is a distinct advantage.

A mature self assured approach and the ability to work independently are vital. These qualities coupled with strength of character and diplomacy will ensure that the successful candidate can perform in this challenging environment.

To apply - please write enclosing your CV to: Reason International Ltd, 19 High Street, Woburn Sands, Milton Keynes, MK17 8RF or Facsimile: 01908 281051 quoting reference T351.

REASON international RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

Frances Harrison College of Healthcare

Guildford

Finance Manager

Senior Manager Grade 12
Salary circa £31,000 p.a.

The Three Southern Colleges of Healthcare in South Thames (West) are looking for a Finance Manager to manage the combined budget and accounts. It is planned to integrate with the University of Surrey on or about 1 August 1995, and this post would then transfer into the University.

We are looking for a qualified accountant (ACA preferred) with experience of managing a small team of staff.

Applicants should be self-starters with good communication skills. Experience of working within public sector finance is desirable but not essential.

If you would like to pay an informal visit please telephone John Foster on 01483 302239.

For further details and an application package please contact the: **Personnel Manager, Frances Harrison College of Healthcare, St Lukes Hospital, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3NT. Telephone 01483 571122 ext 2254 or 2252.**

Closing Date: 16 March 1995
The College operates a Non-Smoking Policy
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PIA

Policy Officer - Financial and European policy

Personal • Investment • Authority

Salary £ negotiable (plus non-contributory pension)

The Personal Investment Authority Limited (PIA) is the new self-regulating organisation (SRO), established under the Financial Services Act 1986, for the retail financial sector. It expects to have a membership of around 5,000 firms, including life insurance companies, unit trust managers, banks and independent financial advisers.

The Authority is seeking to recruit a policy officer to work within an important new department dealing with financial and European policy. This policy officer will assist in the development and implementation of policy relating to all financial matters concerning PIA's membership, including capital adequacy requirements, financial reporting and issues involving client money and safe custody. He/she will also be involved in policy work relating to developments in European legislation or elsewhere in the international community which have relevance for PIA's sphere of activity.

The post will involve working closely with other regulators which cover all aspects of the financial services industry, as well as contact with overseas bodies.

The policy officer will need to demonstrate aptitude to deal with complex issues, often working on his or her own initiative. He/she will require a high level of communication and analytical skills and is likely to have been educated to degree level with at least two years relevant experience within financial services or a related environment. The successful candidate will have understanding and experience of the current system of financial regulation. Familiarity with issues arising in European legislation would be beneficial.

Closing date Friday 24 March 1995

Applicants should write in confidence stating salary expectations, enclosing a full CV to the Recruitment Coordinator (FEP), Personal Investment Authority Limited, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5AZ

ap Accountancy Personnel

HOUSE OF FRASER

Retail Finance Managers

House of Fraser, one of the most successful and prestigious names in Department Store retailing, is seeking forward looking and innovative managers to fulfill an ongoing requirement for Retail Finance Managers with the senior management teams within a number of stores.

With a portfolio of stores varying in size, from 12k sq. ft. to over 350k sq. ft., the level of responsibility and experience required will vary according to size, however the style of management remains the same. We require professionals eager to take full accountability in a changing environment where the highest standards of customer service, management and visual merchandising apply

The Retail Finance Manager will report to the Store Manager and will be a key member of the management team with special responsibility for the finance and administration functions within the store

Suitable applicants will be educated to 'A' level or degree standard and will be able to demonstrate the combination of proven man-management and communication skills with the commercial acumen necessary to grow with the business and make a strategic contribution to our success

If you meet the above requirements and feel ready for the challenge on offer please contact Accountancy Personnel, 5-6 Glen House, Stag Place, London SW1E 5AG. Alternatively for more information on these posts, please telephone (0171) 828 7555.

Hays

FINANCE DIRECTOR

An oil and gas contracting company based in the United Kingdom but part of a major international contracting group seeks to recruit a finance director to contribute to its overall business strategy, both financial and otherwise.

The ideal candidate will have extensive experience of the oil and gas industry, principally in the areas of construction and fabrication and will be a graduate with a background in engineering. A sound knowledge of Latin American and UK accounting principles is essential, as is fluency, both oral and written, in Portuguese, Spanish and English.

The position will involve multi-currency cash management and the structuring of project and trade finance. It will also be important constantly to develop relationships with the financial markets and multilateral developing agencies with the aim of providing funding for projects in developing countries. The successful candidate will be based in the United Kingdom but will be required to travel overseas on business.

Applications including a comprehensive C.V. should be sent to Box No 4399, Times Newspapers, PO Box, 3553, Virginia Street, London E1 9GA.

Divisional Financial Controller

London NW1

Salary c£26k + Car

Media Services Group requires a divisional Financial Controller for its rapidly growing Media & Communications division.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the accounting function and for providing strategic, financial and management information to the individual businesses. He/She must have the confidence and ability to assess, recommend and implement changes to existing reporting structures and procedures.

We are seeking a person who will have an active management involvement in running the business.

Candidates should be aged 25-30, recently qualified accountants with experience of the requirements for accounting within a small company environment. A lively, outgoing and confident personality is as important as technical accounting knowledge.

This is a newly created role which provides the successful candidate with an opportunity to develop both within the division and elsewhere in the Group.

Interested candidates should write stating the reasons they feel they are suitable for the position and enclosing a comprehensive CV to Box No 4192.

Recovery after roller-coaster day

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
523	380½	Abbey Natl	442	+ 1½	5.2	9.3
314	233	Allied Irish	258	- 2	5.5	9.9
278¾	171	Aus New Z	213		5.3	7.8
3300	2462½	Bank Americat	2837½	- 37½		
247	172½	Bank Scotland	201	+ 4½	3.3	11.3
640	487	Barclays	589	+ 6½	4.6	8.5
319	246	Bk of Ireland	300	- 2	4.8	8.7
2912½	2362½	Citicorp	2512½	- 68¾		
265½	203	Close Bros	238		4.2	10.6
£150½	£121½	Commerzbk	£148¾	- 143¾	6.0	
1,786½	993½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1128¾	- 15¾	0.5	
£344¾	£270½	Deutsche Bk	£317¾	+ 165¾	2.3	
1319¾	625	Espirito Santo	662½	- 31¼	12.1	
90	57	First Nat Finl	72		2.6	46.0
1549¾	1152¾	Fuji Bank Y	1342	- 21¾	0.4	
473	195	Hambros	198	- 12	9.6	12.0
1113	589	HSBC	637	+ 11	5.5	7.8
1133	578	HSBC HK	690½	+ 5¼	5.5	7.7
443	386	Joseph (L)	388		5.7	11.3
693	424	Kleinwort Bens	562	- 7	4.9	10.7
660	519	Lloyds	573	+ 8	5.6	9.6
620½	472	Nat Aust Bk	488	+ 9	6.9	8.5
622	421	Nat Westt	489	+ 12½	5.5	7.9
3300	2100	Ottoman Bank	2375		6.1	5.7
79	53	Rea Bros	58		2.0	16.2
528	373½	Ryl Bk Scot	405	+ 3½	4.2	11.6
1574	1050	Schroders	1385	- 18	1.7	12.7
1458	1043	Schroders N/V	1258	- 20	1.8	11.5
114	75	Singer & Fried	82	- 1	4.8	10.6
359¾	223	Stand Chart	265	+ 17½	3.9	7.8
291	197	TSB	232	+ 3½	4.9	9.9
1012	569	Warburg SG	696	+ 17	4.0	12.7
£105	8612½	Wells Fargo	9737½		2.9	
260	194	Westpac	219¼	+ ¼	2.5	
390	203	Wintrust	215		6.2	14.4

BREWERIES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1026	145	Ascot Hldgs	148			
619	485	Bass	493	- 1	5.3	12.2
290	239	Boddington	248	- 1	4.6	12.4
196	166	Burtonwd Brw	170		3.8	14.2
181	142	Eldridge P 'A'	155	- 1	3.3	18.8
66	46½	Fosters Brewing	53	+ 1	5.2	13.9
493	335	Fuller Sm 'A'	343		2.9	14.2
511	398	Greenalls Grp	406	+ 3	4.0	13.4
584	452	Greene King	471	- 1	3.6	12.8
267	239	Hardy Hanson	255	- 4	4.6	12.4
170	135	Heavitree	156		3.6	
3773	3125	Holt J	3380		1.8	18.6
248	195	Mansfield	232		2.5	14.2
314	256	Marston Thmp	269		2.8	13.1
545	425	Morland	430		3.1	12.9
10¼	6¼	Paramount†	6¾		4.6	15.9
329	309	Regent Inns†	328	- 1	2.2	18.7
1665¾	1000	SA Breweries	1625	+ 14¾	1.7	26.3
591	477	Scot & New	498	+ 4	4.4	14.2
306	212	Vaux Group	214		5.8	12.1
491	324½	Wetherspoon JD	487	+ 11	1.7	26.8
617	494	Whitbread	524	- 2	4.6	14.3
599	483	Wolverhmptn D	488	- 1	3.6	12.7
208	148	Yates Bros	201		2.4	15.8
535	450	Young 'A'	463	+ 3	4.0	19.6

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
205	130	Abbey	130		5.0	9.5
200	143	Allen	153		4.6	14.3
164	56	Amec	64		5.9	36.9
167	47	Andrews Sykes	165			
462	333	Ashtead†	419		1.7	17.9
191	94	Avonside	94	- 3	5.9	11.0
41	26	Bailey (Ben) Con	35		2.5	21.4
88	18½	Barcom	37			
292	139	Barratt Dev	166	+ 2	4.5	12.9
169	122	Beazer Homes	126		5.4	9.8
304	179	Bellway	182	- 2	4.8	10.8
59	27	Bellwinch†	27		0.9	14.5
573	315	Berkeley Gp	325	+ 1	2.8	10.3
215	118	Bett Bros	177		3.2	5.4
355	210	Boot (Henry)	215	- 5	3.9	10.6
126	35	Brandon Hire	118	+ 3	1.9	
235	125	Br Bldg & Eng	125		8.2	16.9
197½	105	Bryant	113		5.6	10.7
145¾	98	CALA	105		3.3	14.5
54	31	Campbll & Arm	33			
62	44	Clarke T	49		3.2	41.6
42	12½	Costain	12½	- 6		
185	85	Countryside	89		6.1	10.9
120	73	Crest Nicholson†	74	- 2	3.4	
140	80	Cussins	93	+ 5	5.2	
38	17	Edmond Hldgs	18		2.1	
473	233	Eve Construct	233		5.9	9.5
60	24	Galliford	25½	- 1½	5.0	
112	85	Gibbs & Dandy	87		3.9	
1026	822	Gleeson (MJ)	863		2.1	14.8
86	71	Green (Ernst)	83		9.0	25.6
197	121	Havelock Euro	192		2.0	17.6
169	138	Hewden-Stuart	149		2.5	17.1
144	82	Higgs & Hill	83		3.8	
32	17	Howard Hldgs	17		5.9	13.0
3	E	Jarvis	9			
136	103	Keller	105		4.5	12.2
428	185	Laing (J)	189	+ 1	6.0	17.1
164	85½	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	86		9.3	
176	116	Lon Clydeside	117		5.7	
173	36	Lovell (YJ)	38	- 1	3.4	4.5
253	193	Mauncers (J)	193	- 2	3.0	11.5
321	154	McAlpine (A)	155		5.2	22.7
75¼	46¼	McCarthy & S	48½			17.1
64	51	Morgan Sindall	53		0.2	
125½	87	Mowlem (J)	87	- 1	2.9	
359½	163	Persimmon	167	- 1	6.9	12.5
2405	1450	Pochins	2000		2.0	29.0
192	105	Prowting	105	- 2	4.3	16.0
116	44½	Raine Ind	47		8.0	9.8
51	45	Secure Retire	47			15.2
132	93	Redrow	99		3.4	11.5
87	50	Sadle-Fire	55		1.7	25.9
398	323	Sherrill Hldgs	365		2.0	15.2
112½	51½	Tarmac▲	89		5.1	12.5
245	195	Smart (J)	203	- 2	5.2	21.3
290	155½	Spenders	282		1.1	22.8
257	151	Tay Homes	164	- 3	4.9	12.1
183	114½	Taylor Woodrow	118	- 1	1.9	28.9
780	432	Town Downs	438		9.4	32.6
59½	34	Town Hares▼	52½	- ¼	3.1	19.4
40½	16	Try Group	16		3.9	
77	90	Vibroplant	104	- 1	4.5	18.7
170	105	Wardhomes	105		5.8	11.3
74	48	Ward Hldgs†	55		3.4	
237½	123	Westbury	125		5.4	11.4
7½	3¾	Wiggins	4	+ ¼		
259	124	Wilson (C)	127		4.2	10.6
571	302	Wilson Bowden	308		3.9	13.7
249	113	Wimpey G	122	- 1	5.8	14.6

BUILDING MATERIALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
27	12	Albrighton	12		5.2	20.2
343	283	Alumasc†	335		2.5	16.2
65¾	43½	Amberley Gp	48		3.3	24.7
362	274	BPB Ind	285	+ 1	3.7	14.6
142	93	Baggeridge Brk	125		3.1	12.9
60	39	Bardon	39	- 1	8.6	
93	58	Blockleys	59	- 3	1.9	
391	256	Blue Circle	267		5.3	19.0
117	72	Breedon PLC	73		7.9	20.9
154	128	Br Dredging	133		5.3	16.0
409	321	CRH	352	- 4	2.9	
70	31	Calebread Roy	41			4.4
278	198	Caps	209	+ 1	6.7	
455	230	Camden	237	- 3	4.7	15.7
215¾	114	Caradon pf	119½	- 1	7.6	
62	46	Chelfam Gp	50		7.7	18.1
134	89	Dyson (J&J)†	107		4.1	16.1
97	63	Dyson 'A'	64		6.8	9.6
19¾	4½	Eclipse Blinds	12			
350	273	Erwin	279		3.5	16.6
82	57	Erith	61		2.9	34.3
218	160	Graham Grp	189	- 1	4.0	
399	312	Halstead (J)	319		2.9	14.7
511	273	Heworth	274		6.8	15.6
88	48	Hewetson†	80		2.3	13.9
152¾	63½	Hewill (J)	81	- 2	2.7	
473	246	Heywd Wms	249	- 2	6.8	14.0
100	67	Ibstock	82		1.5	
294	149	Johnston	271		2.1	32.5
170	92	Lilleshall	92	- 1	6.8	
213¾	120	Marley	124	- 2	4.2	14.7
155	123	Marshalls†	124	- 1	4.5	11.0
569	295	Meyer Intl	303	+ 5½	4.5	11.8
196	146	Newman Tnks	164	...	4.9	20.7
212½	76	Norcros	79		11.1	15.0
20	9	Phoenix Timber	16			
208	143	Pilkington	163	- 1	3.1	31.4
185	122	Polypipe	127	+ 1	2.4	14.5
1079	805	RMC Gp	939	- 7	2.8	19.4
40	9	Ramus	9			
840	415	Redland	422	- 3	7.4	19.5
115	70	Ruskel	115	+ 4	4.7	
185½	102½	Rugby Group	108		4.0	13.6
103	62	Russell (A)	89		3.2	18.3
288	222	SIG	235	- 4	3.2	
21	14½	SWP	14½	- 1	1.7	
200	155	Sharpe & Fisher	175		3.1	12.8
81½	36	Spring Ram	38½	- ½	1.6	
206	104	Tarmac	104	- 2	8.6	
220	155	Tilon	155		3.6	12.5
370	274	Travis Perkins	278	- 1	3.7	17.1
28	21	Tudor	28		1.1	
54	33	Unigroup	35			
63	33	Waterhouse	38			
129	83	Wickes	103		2.2	18.4
487½	324	Wolseley	334	+ 2	3.1	13.2

BUSINESS SERVICES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3¾	1½	Anglo Utd	1½			
110	57	App Hold	65			
165	107	Airwaves	118		5.3	
11	6½	Bailey (CH)	7¾			
49	30	Black Arrow	42		9.2	6.7
124	70	Br Bloodstock	73	- 1		65.5
13	5½	Card Gp	5¾			16.0
10½	4½	Chemex	6		2.1	18.8
157	109	Cosalt	140		7.1	9.4
237	188	Filofax†	220	- 4	3.2	18.9
50	28	Heavway	30		2.9	23.3
292	234	Horelock	250	- 3	3.7	12.4
248	147	Leigh	151		6.5	14.0
274	214	Nobo Gpt	224	- 3	3.5	14.5
310	207	Photo-Met	223		2.7	21.8
60	38	Plant & Gen	53	- 1	4.1	
12½	2½	Porth Group	2¾			
51½	5½	Rodime	8½			
130	73	Shanks & McEwan	74	- 1	3.5	
244	163	Sinclair (Wm)†	186		5.5	12.4
700	385	Waste Mgt Ind	387	- 11		

CHEMICALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
156½	109	Allied Colloids	115		2.6	16.2
790	705	Amber Ind	783		3.4	15.5
£141¼	£105½	BASF DM	£126½	- 953¾	4.0	
767	627	BOC	708	+ 8	4.4	16.9
365¾	236	BTP	251	+ 1	5.4	14.2
£160½	£129½	Bayer DM50	£152½	- 318¾	3.2	
171	97	Blagden	110		1.7	51.4
131	98	Brent Chems	103	- 1½	5.2	
309	210	Br Vita	239	+ 6	4.1	15.6
46	18	Cambridge Iso	35			
200	153	Canning (W)	200	+ 2	4.6	33.8
580	401	Courtaulds	447	+ 9	4.2	30.5
389	324	Croda	340	+ 1	3.1	14.6
143	95	Doeflex	128		4.5	12.9
79	33¾	Euro Colour▲	75½	- 1½	2.8	21.9
149	110	Gibbon E	118		5.8	10.9
223	108	Hickson	129	- 2	7.8	11.6
£153¼	£108¾	Hoechst	£137¾	+ 71¾	2.9	
250	153½	Holliday Chem	200		2.8	16.3
868	660	ICI	680	+ 10	5.1	31.4
191½	97½	Kalon	139			
843	620	Laporte	656	+ 20	4.4	13.9
95	48	MTM†	80		2.1	
405	290	Manders	311	- 1	4.0	15.1
127	100	McLeod Russel	114		6.8	12.4
128	30	Metrotect	31	+ 1	13.9	4.2
679½	358½	Montedison	448	+ ¼	4.2	21.8
349	265	Porvair†	300		2.0	20.7
272	186	Scapa	194		3.8	15.8
86	16	Sutcliffe Speakt	19		4.6	11.3
852½	656	Takeda Chem	776¾	+ 37¾	1.2	9.7
490	325	Wardle Storeys	345	- 1	6.2	19.2
220	186	Wellington Hog	186		3.4	18.2
823	570	Wolstholme R	765		3.1	16.0
483	334	Yorks Chem†	341		3.2	
336	245	Yule Catto	245	- 2	3.3	18.8

DISTRIBUTORS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
127	94	ABI Lec	94	- 2	5.4	10.6
317	248	Acal	294		3.0	15.9
595	253	Adam & Harvey	545		3.6	6.8
31	19	Alexanderst	19		6.6	
175	88	Appleyard	93		7.8	16.4
6	3¼	Ass Br Eng	4¼		1.5	30.3
578	495	BSS Group	532	+ 2	4.3	18.8
25½	17	Bearing Power	20½	- ½	6.1	10.5
405	245	Blackley Mb	250		5.2	10.3
40	28	Bogod 'A'	28		3.1	11.8
370	288	Brammer	349	- 1	4.7	19.4
31	12	Brioquad Gp	14		1.8	72.8
99	78	Brit Fittings	94		3.0	
71	36	Brown & Tawse	36			
57	35	Burntene	39		6.2	
485	245	Caffyns	245	- 5	5.9	40.2
59	12	Castles Plc	17	+ ½	6.1	9.4
130	66	Central Mtr†	67	+ 1	5.1	44.6
51	32½	Cook (DC)	35		4.1	10.7
342¾	197½	Cowiet	243	- 1	4.7	
192½	127	Dag Motors	130	- 3	6.2	14.9
663	446	Dalmans El	588		1.4	14.5
665¼	414½	Diploma	419	- 1	4.0	14.7
580	443	Electrocomponts	495	- 3	2.6	20.3
175	133	Electron House†	156		2.8	13.1
283	225	Ellis & Everard†	244	- 2	4.0	16.2
234	193	Europollar	193		5.5	15.1
173	91	European Mtr	91	- ½	6.2	9.9
539¾	368	Evans Halshaw	368	- 1	4.8	11.6
656	490½	Farnell Elect	542	- 2	1.8	22.2
78	50	File Indnsr	53		6.5	7.8
34	15	Gardiaert	20½		4.9	
46	16	Glenchewton	16			17.7
90	60	Gowrings	71		3.5	21.5
76	59	Halkin Hldgs	62	- 1		48.4
172	122	Harris (Philip)	168		5.1	14.7
342¾	258	Healys	284	+ 1	3.8	
197	88	Holders Tech	89		8.4	9.8
138	98	ISA Intl	99		2.2	12.4
809	288	Inchcape	309	+ 8	6.1	10.3
68	35	Jacks (Wm)	58			13.4
184	142	Kwik-Fit	143	- 1	3.5	16.4
373	277	Lex Service	294	- 1	6.1	15.2
282	162	Lookers	172		5.8	9.2
28	14	Malaya Grp	14		2.2	
9	3¼	Middlesex ©	6¾			
440	279	Morbain	380		0.7	17.0
100	47	Northamber	87	- 1	1.9	36.9
175	152	PCT	152		6.1	14.7
310	225	Pendragon	228	- 1	4.1	14.9
238	125	Perry Gp	125		7.0	6.9
219	136	Quicks Group	136		4.9	14.2
166	97	REA	162	- 1	4.6	33.5
5¼	3½	Reneze	3¾			
24	3½	Ross Gp	3½	- ¼	7.7	
42	32½	SEP Indt	39½		3.3	
44	31	TLS Range	40		3.1	16.1
365	215	Time Products	227		4.8	15.3
221	151	Vardy (Reg)	178		3.7	13.1
335	240	Wholesale Fitgst	243		6.0	21.7
30½	13½	Wills Gp	14½		4.3	8.1
74½	39½	Wilshaw	69		1.2	23.3
66	37¾	Wyko▼	66		1.9	23.8
96	61	Young (H)	75		6.0	14.0

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
202	148	Adwest	156		6.0	15.9
380	199½	Antofagasta	243	- 5	1.8	19.7
62	43½	Armour	43½		5.3	9.0
997	773½	Broken Hill	823	+ 14	2.4	18.1
401	273	BTR	308	+ 3	5.1	16.3
570	372	BAT	432	+ 11	6.7	10.9
270½	120½	Beresford Intl▼	219		0.3	58.0
91	49	Bixby (J)	81		4.6	15.0
57½	44	Brierley Inv	44½	- ½	9.3	2.6
836	636¾	Charter	752	- 1	3.8	22.0
285	197	Cookson	197	- 20	4.5	19.0
302	217½	Hanson†	234	+ 1½	6.4	14.6
220	136	Harrison Crsfld	140	+ 1	8.0	15.9
365¾	200¾	Hutch Whamp	246½	- 6	3.2	18.2
710	409½	Jardine Math	509¾	- 13¼	2.8	12.0
36	27½	Jourdan (T)	29		4.3	38.8
175½	124½	Lonrho†	136	- 4	4.1	24.9
44	16	Porter Chadburn	41			
685½	451	Powell Duffryn	451	- 2	6.9	12.7
164	178½	Ropner	124		7.6	14.1
489	337	Rothmans	453		5.3	22.0
34¾	9¼	Saltire	14½	- ½		5.5
157½	105	Sime Darby	136	- 4	3.2	17.3
267	164	Staveley	165		6.4	50.8
230	148	Suter	158	+ 1	7.8	
368	230	TI Group	229	- 3	2.4	
383	302	Tomkins†	231		4.4	14.8
124	58	Trafalgar Ht	58	- ½	2.1	
440	245	Unitare	295		6.3	
324	249½	Wassall	252		1.8	21.6
13½	9½	Williams†	9½		2.6	14.8
414½	309	Williams Hldg	332	- 2	5.1	19.9

ELECTRICITY

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
894½	554	East Midlands†	561	- 34	6.1	23.6
966	535	Eastern Grpt	560	- 35	5.5	12.3
785	534	London Elect	573	- 35	5.4	8.8
886	621	Manweb†	634	- 55	5.4	8.6
845½	547	Midlands Elect	582	- 40	5.3	8.9
530	404½	National Powr	442	+ 4	4.4	12.1
1132	589	Northern Elec	793	- 104	5.2	8.2
421	322	Northern Ireland	332	- 13	4.6	8.6
861	587	Norweb	637	- 36	4.9	7.6
602	449	PowerGen	471	- 2½	4.8	10.2
477	305½	Hydro-Elect	307	- 2	5.3	9.7
486	309½	Scottish Power†	312	- 2	5.1	9.1
490	299	Seeboard	341	- 21	4.6	9.3
912	591	Sth Wales	640	- 35	5.7	8.7
839	561	Sth Western	610	- 18	5.2	8.1
837	540	Southern Elect	582	- 21	5.2	8.5
909	599	Yorkshire Elec	621	- 43	5.6	10.6

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
109	63	Acorn Comp	87½			
650	478	Admiral	628		1.6	
288	183	Alba	208		3.1	16.1
250	126¾	Amstrad†	166	- 3	1.9	
39	24	Arlen	32	- 2		
94½	77	Astec	78	- 1	1.4	16.0
281	118	Azlan	120		3.1	9.7
478	287	BICC	329	+ 5	4.9	16.8
283	235	Bowes Hunter	235		5.3	12.6
16	6	Berkeley Bus	7			
535	402	Blick†	452	+ 4	3.2	15.2
380	290	Bowthorpe	309		2.8	17.8
21½	14½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	18½		1.7	10.6
283	194	CML Micro	194		3.9	12.4
67	32	Channel Hldgs	33		4.7	9.4
35½	20	Chloride	20¾		0.6	58.1
90	60	Claymore	63		5.3	
180	81	Copymore	140		3.8	
202	139	Cray Electt	139	- 1	2.2	16.2
478	412	Crichley	469	- 5	2.3	19.8
403	269	Dalka Bs Sys	383	+ 3	0.6	26.6
586	421	Delta	428	- 3	4.3	18.3
566	400	Domino†	523	- 1	2.3	15.9
78	63	Dowding Mills	65		4.8	24.1
1635	1220	Druck	1500		0.9	25.5
1752¾	2300	Electrolux 'B'	2956½	- 9¼	3.6	
38½	21	Emess	28		4.0	
4040¾	2737½	Ericsson 'B'	3550	+ 65¾	1.3	25.0
86	56	Eurotherm†	64		2.8	13.0
451	343	Eurotherm	411	- 2	1.7	21.2
410	334½	Farey Group	386		2.0	20.4
283	180	Forward Gp	248	+ 4	2.8	15.3
58	14½	Forward Tech	43		2.2	8.9
353½	259	GEC†	285	+ 2½	4.8	14.1
191	102	Gestetner	116			
191	119	Graseby	136	- 1	5.5	12.8
197	121	Ind Control	137		4.8	11.5
385	262	Kewood App	262	- 3	4.4	12.9
1325	730	Kershaw (A)†	1300		3.2	9.8
165	38	Kode	62	- 4	8.1	
55	34	LPA Ind	34		5.9	24.2
320	250	MTL Inst	297		1.8	17.9
281	210	Memec-Swt	261	- 3	2.2	18.3
45	31	Microvitec	33½	- ½	7.5	
494	185	Miel	291	- 8		
91	60	Pacer Systems	67		6.0	
98	74½	Peek	76	- 2	5.6	19.1
2175	1400	Philips Lmp nv	2106¼	- 15¾	2.4	
359	293	Plessey†	297	- 1	2.0	19.9
344	275	Pifco 'A' Vgt	276		2.0	17.6
140	70	Plasmec	116		4.0	
129	80	Pressac	99		3.6	19.0
43¼	17¼	Prestwick	23			
303	181	Psion	245		1.5	17.2
261	187	Racal Elect	232		2.4	19.1
53	33	Radamec	44	- 1	5.4	12.1
311	202½	Rodboro	224	+ 4	2.7	
69	15	Scanitronic	15½	- ½		
49	34	Silvermines	41		2.5	24.3
94	53	Soundtrackst	53		5.8	12.1
104	38	Sthn Bus	65		7.2	4.3
19	9	TDS Circuits	9¼			
3225	2265½	TDK	2781½	+ 75	1.2	
447	174½	Tadpole Tech	210	- 7		
170	64	Telemetrix	64	- 1	2.0	8.2
101	51	TGI	87		3.2	16.2
385	191	Telspec	372	- 1	0.8	44.9
246	133	Thorpe FW	226		1.8	16.5
145	117	TLG	145	+ 2	3.0	20.8
43	22	Total Systems	31			32.2
303	215	Tunstall	238		3.0	16.0
391	256	Unitech†	377		2.3	19.0
15¼	8	Verity	9½			35.5
483	369	Volex	369		6.2	15.4
200	60	Waterbourne	62½	- 1½		
168	93	Whitecroft	164		2.7	18.0

ENGINEERING

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
187	119	AMT	186		3.0	
138	47½	APV	66	- 1½	8.3	
216	146½	ASW	181	- 4	4.2	
125	30½	Aero Hamble	35		13.4	3.9
21½	14	Aerospace Engt	16½		5.7	
73	27½	Alvist	68	- 1	1.8	
175	134	Ash & Lacy	135½		5.9	14.0
553	490	Atlas Equip	553		5.0	18.4
125	66	Ayrshire Metal	120		1.6	14.7
40¾	26	Babcock	28	+ ½		
176	126	BWI	126	- 2	6.6	19.3
88	64	Baynes (Charles)	84		2.6	21.5
95	23	Beauford	31			
226	110	Billam (J)	120		5.7	
329	262	Bodycote	314		2.1	21.4
81	43	Booth Inds	75			
20	13½	Brasway	14½		4.6	13.7
171	120	Britton	148		3.4	
578½	386½	Br Aerospace	478	+ 4	3.7	19.4
172¾	121½	Br Steel	154½	+ ½	2.8	18.7
115	86½	Bromsgrove Indt	87	- 1	6.5	14.8
18¾	9½	Brooke Toolt	12½	- ½	1.0	28.4
51	24½	Brunel	44½	- ½		
186	135	Bullough†	157	- 1	4.8	16.2
80	55	Burnfield	80		4.4	
22	14	CI Group	15		2.5	
293	241	Carclo Engt	245		5.3	14.9
159	110	Casings	151		2.3	18.6
230	150	Chamberlin Hill	150		5.6	9.5
360	272	Chemring	328	- 6	3.7	15.4
298½	175	Clyde Blowers	177		3.2	
425	235	Cosnon	307		3.2	15.3
688	403	Cohen (A)	508		0.8	
263	173	Concentric	173	- 5	4.4	13.6
310	218	Cook (Wm)	218		4.3	10.3
296	198	David Brown	202	- 2	4.1	14.2
97	68	Dobson Park	69		6.8	12.8
442	335	IS	335	- 5	4.6	13.5
101	89	Elliott (B)	92		2.7	13.8
118	60	Expamet	90		3.6	63.8
212	135	FKI	141		3.7	16.3
138	109	Fenner	128	- 3	1.5	59.6
45	17	Ferrom	17			
88	73	GEI Intl	87		3.6	15.9
134	91	Ganon Eng	120		4.8	
404	295	Glynwed	300	- 4	4.9	17.6
14½	10	Goodstone	12		2.5	10.1
85	59½	Hadon Macln	61	- 1	4.4	
158	90	Hadleigh	152		2.1	17.3
320	135	Hall Eng	139		7.2	10.9
256	178	Halma	182	+ 2	1.8	19.7
73	47	Hampson Ind	50		5.1	9.3
48	25	Hay (Norman)	25			
184½	122	Hill & Smith†	127	+ 2	6.1	
63	39	Hopkinsons	58		2.8	
41	27	How Gp	29		3.2	
103	76	Howden	76		4.2	12.3
265	157	Hunting	170		7.4	24.3
379	286	IMI	310	+ 2	4.1	26.3
51	33½	Johnson & FB	42½			
628	488	Johnson Matth	510		3.0	19.1
32	25	Jones Stroud	29			
335	230	Kelsey Indt	314	- 1	5.2	
278	205	Lincat	278	+ 3	3.1	17.3
20½	11	Locker (T) A	12		4.2	
47	29	ML Hldgs†	29		5.0	10.1
67	21	MS Intl	21		8.9	12.7
179	139	Mang Bronze	154		3.2	12.0
539	378	McKechnie	390	- 1	4.7	22.9
120	61	Meggitt	79	- ½	6.2	12.7
120	101	Metalx	108		4.3	17.9
130	98	Metsec	131		2.9	18.2
589	487	Molins	490		4.0	9.9
408	293	Morgan Cble	305	+ 1	5.2	14.8
217	176	Morris Ashby†	194		4.0	14.0
51	33	Neepsend	33		4.7	16.6
128	48	Neotronics	88		3.1	18.8
60	40	Newmark (L)	40			
58¾	15¼	Ohi Ind	16		13.7	70.4
358	277	Oxford Instr	320		2.0	18.0
341	218	Powerscreen	248		3.8	10.4
23½	12½	Prospect Indst	12¾		8.3	6.5
108	60	Radiant Metal	73			
71	13	Ransomes	54			
95	70	Record	84		5.5	
281	243½	Renishaw	230	- 1	2.8	22.8
192	126	Renold	180		2.0	26.2
73	50	Richard (Leics)	50		5.6	35.6
104½	73	Richardson West	73		5.5	16.0
204	148	Rolls-Royce	148	- 1	4.2	26.1
185	156	Rotork	161		3.4	16.4
180	134	Rubicon†	158		3.0	25.8
150½	87	Senior Eng	70½	+ ½	6.0	11.5
270	245	Servomex	266		3.1	26.4
358	498	Siebe†	518	- 5	2.7	16.7
130½	74	Simon Eng	81			
82	35	Sev Hundred	81		2.3	39.0
1459¾	1031½	SKF 'B'	1140¾	+ 25		
527½	471	Smiths Ind	434	- 6	3.7	16.7
465	337	Spirax-Sarco	432		2.9	18.4
267	197	Sterling Ind	233		3.8	15.1
455	328	TI	342	- 2	4.5	15.4
121	92	Tinsley (E)	97		7.2	13.2
105	45	Transfer Tech	58	- 2	7.1	8.3
163	125	Triplex Lloyd	128		6.8	
18½	12	Utd Inds	14	- ½	0.9	
1548	980	VSEL	1498	- 27	3.0	14.1
31½	11½	Verson	12½			
204	162	Vickers	179		3.4	17.0
327	230	Victaulic	243	+ 3	4.5	
19	8½	Villers Gp	9½			
531	451	Vinten	509		2.0	13.3
805	661	Vosper Thorny	742	- 1	3.2	16.1
627	445	Wagon Ind	447		5.1	22.7
354½	222	Weir	230		3.6	13.7
46½	36	Wellman	39		3.2	63.7
548	365	Whatman	453		2.9	16.6
284	98	Whessoe	122		5.4	

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
66	31	AAF Inds	36	- 1		
160	108	Airflow Stream	157		3.2	15.4
639	440	Avon Rubber	446		4.6	16.1
236	173	BBA	194		3.1	
86½	49½	BSG	54		7.4	33.8
18½	8½	Benson Group	9		4.9	12.7
306	180	Bosrom	298		2.5	17.0
28½	17	Boustead†	23	- 1	5.4	
22	16	Cawdale	11½		1.6	11.7
357	275	ERF	356		1.4	
400	296	First Tech	399		1.7	23.0
680	510½	GKN	565	+ 2	4.5	33.1
438½	2337½	General Mtrt	2425	+ 25	2.0	
1239	918½	Honda Motor	1009	+ 4¾	0.5	
432¾	304	Laird	315	- 1	4.3	15.2
360	223	Loades	360			
239	158	Lucas	186	+ 3	4.7	
64	50	Mayflower	59		3.0	24.0
124	61	Midstates	69	+ 1		9.6
178	149	Sylamo	166		3.8	18.4
261	140	T & N	159	- 1	8.7	
333	263	Trinity Hldgs	327	- 1	2.5	23.7

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
611	499	AB Food	583	+ 1	3.4	12.1
369	223	Acatos & Hutchr	248		4.5	9.4
74	40	Albert Fisher	40	- 1	11.6	11.8
270	200	Banks (S C)†	200		8.1	9.3
387	305	Barr (AG)†	351	- 5	2.8	
72	15	Bensons Crsp	16			
481	374	Booker	382		7.2	14.1
56½	31	Borthwick	32½	- 1	5.0	15.4
212	156	CPL Aromas	193		1.9	18.4
524	370	Cadbury-Schw	423	- 3	4.7	13.1
267	143	Carrs Milling	247	- 4	3.1	11.2
170	130	Cranswick	169		6.1	12.3
154	90	Dalepak†	114	- 2	2.2	
520	372½	Dalgety▲	407	+ 4	6.8	11.1
87	44	Daniels S	44		0.9	76.1
294	208	Devro	214		3.7	14.4
101	52	Everest	85		3.7	31.9
8	4½	Farmingford	5¾			
85	60	Finlay (James)	66		7.9	9.0
20½	10	Global	10		6.3	9.1
77	38	Grand Central	49			
433	325	Greencore	433		3.0	11.4
194	102	Hazlewood Fds	107	- 2	7.8	6.7
196½	151	Hillsdown	180	- 3	6.2	12.8
28	16	Hobson	25	- ½		
111	69	JLI Group	70		8.7	9.9
408	313	Linton Park	335		6.5	9.6
127	85	Matthews (B)	103	- 1	3.3	12.4
181	155	Man ED & F	166		6.9	8.6
246	205	Nichols (JN)	233		3.1	15.0
271½	193	Nine Foods†	206	+ 1	5.3	10.6
14	9	Northmbn Fr	10			19.4
46	13	Pascoe's	13			
81	61	Perkins Food	61		9.1	10.2
98	73	Saxby Farm	93		3.0	9.4
122	82	Sims Food	73		12.8	
467½	392	Tate & Lyle	417	- 3	4.3	8.6
240	145	Treatt	238		2.4	16.7
434½	317	Unigate	358	+ 2	6.1	8.8
1247	958	Unilever	1166	- 2	2.9	
8118¾	6496¾	Unilever (NV)	7775	+ 50	3.2	
388	337½	Utd Biscuits	340	+ 6	5.6	37.8
49	33	West Trust†	34		9.2	23.8
133	83	Yorkshire Food	84	- 1	5.4	

HEALTHCARE

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
544	280	AAH†	435		5.1	15.3
1141	770	Amersham	810	- 7	2.5	17.0
81	43	Anagen	47			
297¾	136	Assoc Nursg	186		1.5	10.9
383	243	Bespak	303	- 2	4.2	15.5
10	5	Care UK	7			
115	60	Celsis	75	- 1		
47	34	Cortecs	35			
397	203	Community Ht	203½	- ½	5.0	11.7
44	29	CrestaCare†	31	- 1	3.2	
146	96	Enviromed	102		2.8	13.0
110	68	Ferraris Group	68	- 5	4.1	9.4
171	134	Goldsborough	145	- 2	2.8	13.0
15½	9½	Granacare	9¾		4.4	12.9
513	402	Huntigh Tec	505		1.3	23.5
165	39	Intercare Grt	52		8.4	8.4
325	255	Isotron	255	- 5	2.4	15.7
171	107	Life Sciences	132½	- ½	4.2	
152¾	74	Lon Intl	95	- 1		
80	41	Nestor-BNA	41	- 1	9.6	10.2
3	1	Premier Health	1			
330	227	Quality Care	235		2.4	11.6
210	118	Scholl	143		5.6	13.7
363	275½	Seton Health	351		2.4	17.9
83	43	Shield Diag	43			
169½	136½	Smith & Neph	156½		4.3	
21	6	Speciatyes	8			
292	185	Takare	192		1.3	16.7
313	234	UniChem	234	- 9	3.6	12.6
400	293	West Hilmcare†	304		2.0	15.9

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
312	301	Alcomang	203		3.0	13.1
193	115	BLP Group	125		1.9	34.3
39	26	Bilston Bttsea	31			
167	79	Cnwell Plk 'A'	80		8.9	17.9
285	163	Creighton Nt	163		5.9	11.5
165	133	Denby Group	143		2.7	15.5
168	113	Gastell	133		4.0	
14	4	Lionheart	4		8.2	
231	160	Mayborn	160		4.6	10.6
335	245	Ondlame Intl	253		5.3	11.5
430	230	Osborne & Little	396		2.4	12.0
625	420	Paterson Zch	422		4.1	12.2
595	380	Paterson Zch 'A'	383		4.5	11.1
714½	528	Reckitt Colm	630	+ 3	3.6	15.9
291	211	Relyon	282		3.2	
172	173	Silentnight	173	- 5	5.8	10.9
46	27½	Stoddard	29	- ½	6.9	10.9
330	193	Toroutonic	193	- 2	7.4	
160	125	Victoria Carpet	125		4.5	7.1
110½	94½	Walker Greenbk	106		4.2	12.5
63	44	Wrfrd Wdgwd	53	- 4		41.3
155	155	Wood (Arthur)	155		2.4	31.2

INSURANCE

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1493¾	937½	Alex & Alext	1325	+ 12½	5.0	
2043¾	1587½	Am Gen	1912¾	- 25	4.0	
112	77	Angerstein	78		3.2	64.3
86	47	Archer	62		2.0	
165	85	Bradstock†	89		4.0	10.0
550	370	Britannic	511	- 4	3.5	
117	84	CLM Insce	85		3.0	
701½	473	Com Union	515	+ 10	6.6	9.7
108	85	Delian	86		6.2	
1950	1625	Dom & Gen	1635		2.1	17.5
221½	145	FBD IC	159	- ¼	4.3	7.4
194	140	Fenchurch Grct	146		6.8	9.7
114	88½	Fiesbury Undert	87		2.8	56.1
757	491	Gen Accident	533	- 2	7.1	7.6
247	160½	GRE†	172	- 1	6.0	
105	80	HCG Lloyds	83		2.0	69.9
457	211	Heath C E	240	- 5	8.3	
245½	177½	Hibernian Ic	216¾	+ 1	4.5	8.2
114	86	Hiscox Select	100½		1.9	
323	238½	Independent	278	- 1	4.4	
241	178	Irish Life	180		6.5	16.8
203	118	JIB Group	124		7.6	11.4
103	100	Kiln Capital	101		5.0	
547	407	Legal & Gen	449	+ 3	5.7	17.8
1568¾	965¾	Liberty Life	1384¾		7.3	5.5
119	91	London Ins Mkt	94		2.7	32.8
310	145	Lloyd Thomp	151	- 1	6.5	10.0
471	313	Lloyds Abbey†	353	- 4	6.9	11.8
233	199	Lombard Insy	223		4.1	22.3
443	282	Londn & Man	320	- 2	6.3	15.9
119	91	London Ins Mkt	94		2.1	32.8
236	146	Lowndes Lmb	157		6.2	9.7
5893¾	4531¾	Marsh McLn	5000	- 37½	3.6	
110	79	Masthead	82			
188	147	Nelson Hurst	172		4.1	17.2
105	68	New London Cap	69		7.8	
51	41	Octavian	50		8.9	
129¾	100	Oriel	101		6.2	
99	66	Pendium Trust	68		3.7	
124	93	Pendium Under	94			
385	271	Prudential	304	+ 2	5.6	13.1
83	14	PWS†	15½		4.8	
404	239	Refuge	327	- 5	4.4	24.1
350	237½	Royal†	274	+ 6	5.5	5.2
222	139	Sedgwick†	155	+ 2	5.2	14.3
155	104	Steel Burnt	115		9.8	
418	281	Sun Alliance	311	- 3	6.5	10.7
107	74	Syndicate Capt	75		2.1	59.8
96	51	Trade Indemnty	70		7.8	
464	302	Transatlantic	331		5.1	
673	432	Utd Friendly	573		3.7	29.4
245	123	Willis Corroon	141		5.9	16.6
28	19	Windsor†	21		3.0	7.1

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
360	280	3i	347	+ 1	2.7	
105½	62	Abtrust Emerg	62½	- 1	0.4	
102	73	Abtrust High Inc	73½	- 1	9.5	
290	182	Abtrust N Dawn	193½	- 1½	0.8	
2058	1678	Alliance	1751	+ 4	3.4	
293	238	American Trust	244	- 3	2.8	
479	391	Anglo & O seas	399	+ 4	2.4	
196	118	Baillie Gifford SH	127	+ 2	...	
219	172	Bankers	174½	- 1	2.8	
75¼	32	Baring Em Eu	32¼		0.4	
381	300	Baring Tribunt	308	- 1	2.7	
248	198	Berry Starq	229		1.2	
91½	84½	Br Assets†	85	- ¼	6.4	
98	83	Br Empire Sec	83½	- ¼	1.4	
46	25	Br Empire Wts	26			
234	188	Br Inv	200	- 2	3.1	
105¾	63¾	Brazilian	82½		0.4	
272	212½	Brunner†	213	- 1½	3.2	
181	117	BZW Conv	127½	- 1½	7.7	
374	310	Candover	371		3.8	
66	40	Central Euro Gwth	40	- ½	1.3	
271	144	China & Eastern	151	- 3	2.9	
223	167	Coutl Assett	167	- 2	2.2	
95	76	Dartmoor Inv Inc	76		13.1	
328	268	Derby Cap	280	- 3		
173	147	Derby Inc	156		13.5	
100	54	Drayton Blue	54		19.4	
111	84	Dryfn Eng Intl	93		1.1	
156	122	Drytn Far East†	129½	+ 1½	0.7	
784	613	Dunedin Inc G	621	- 2	5.3	
108	75	Dunedin Japan	77	- 1		
341	282	Dunedin Smlr	288	- 1	3.8	
80	32	Dunedin Wts	26	- 1		
837	678	Dunedin Wrde	678	- 5	1.8	
122	82½	Edin Dragon	92¾			
53½	24¾	Edinburgh Inca	24½	- 1	0.3	
360	281	Edinburgh	283	- ½	3.9	
179	130	EFM Japan	138	+ 1		
354	286	Electra Inv	310	- 2	2.9	
220	182	Electric Gen	182	- 1	2.2	
201	169	Eng & Caledont	174		1.9	
127	106	English Scott	109	- 1		
345	273	European Asset	280	- 1	2.3	
174	145	Fidelity Euro Val	152	- 2	0.2	
102½	65	Fidelity Jap Val	68½		0.2	
172	146	Finsbury 'A'	149		2.5	
86	62	First Spanish	62		0.5	
343	267	Fleming Amert	269½	- 2½	0.8	
145	51½	Fleming Chinese	59½	- 1	1.1	
92	22	Fleming Ch Wts	28	- 1		
267	198	Fleming Claver	201	- 1	3.5	
385	293	Fleming Contl	294	- 2	0.9	
210½	127	Fleming Em Mkts	127	- 3		
364	190	Fleming Enpt	199	- 2	3.0	
459	278½	Fleming F East	301	- 1	0.6	
422	329	Fleming Fledgt	329	- 1	1.1	
120	89	Fleming Hi Inct	91½	- ¼	6.0	
109	68	Fleming Indian	70	- 2	1.6	
84	33	Fleming In Wts	39	- 1		
52½	29¼	Fleming Intl	29½	- ¼	15.1	
284	208	Fleming Japan	222	+ 1		
347	258½	Fleming Merc	259	- 3	3.2	
94	76	Fleming Nat Res	76			
347¼	269	Fleming Oseast	272	+ 1	2.0	
155½	124	Foreign & Col	128½	+ ½	1.7	
106	91	For & Col Inc Gwth	91	- ½	2.9	
148	93½	Frgn Emg Mkts	93¾	- 2		
77	64½	Frgn Entrprsart	70	- ½	1.4	
261	206	Frgn Eurotst	210	- 2	0.7	
145	114	Frgn German	124		0.5	
374	277	Frgn Pacific	284	- 1	1.1	
144	116	Frgn PEP	121	- 1	3.6	
192	153	Frgn Smaller	154½	- ½	1.7	
120	90	Frgn US Smlr	93			
28½	18½	Fulcrum Cap	18½	- ½		
54	39	Fulcrum Incf	39		27.8	
146	134½	Fulcrum Zero	144			
213	188	Gartmore Brit	195		4.7	
151	124	Gartmore Euro	137	- 2	0.8	
130	84	Gartmore Shrft	84	- 1	14.3	
247	201	G more Smlr Cos	207	- 1	3.5	
128	93	Geared Inc Inv	93½	- 1	11.1	
200	138	Gen Cons Cap	139	- 1		
115½	104	Gen Inct	104		11.2	
106	86	German Inv	96	- 1	0.1	
325	192	Gov Asian Sm Co's	199	- 5	0.2	
151	89	Gov Emg Mkt	89	- 2	0.4	
191	135	Govett Asn Smlr	137	- 2		
96½	77	Gov Stgb Smlr	77			
112	71	Govett High Inct	71		9.9	
429	322	Govett Oriental	327	- 2	0.4	
346	223½	Govett Strategic	225½		3.7	
475	366	Greenfriart	366	- 1	2.3	
19	6	Gresham House	19			
330	191	GT Japan	206	+ 2	0.8	
155	113½	H Gmbd Smlr Co	113½	- ½	1.2	
138	113	Hend Hign	114½		6.2	
293	257	Hend Strata	259	- 2	0.2	
105	80	Heralq	88	+ 1	0.6	
116	80½	HTR Jap Smaller	88	+ 1		
27	13	I&S Ent	13			
119	93	I&S UK Smlr	94		3.7	
129	120	Inv Capt	120	- ½	5.4	
99	84	Ind Biotech	84	- 1		
58	26	Int Wts	26	- 1		
177	126	INVESCO Korea	127			
122	83	J Fry 2nd Ut	83	- 1	8.9	
100	83	J Fry Euro U	85		7.3	
255	177	JF Fledg Jap	188½	+ 1		
121	99	Jupiter Intl Grt	99	- 1	4.3	
243	194	Kleinwort Chrtt	198	- 1½	3.3	
149	97	Kleinwort E Mkt	97½	- 1½		
124	105	Kleinwort Eud	111			
88¼	73	Kleinwort Euro Prvt	74	- ¼	1.4	
49	22½	Kleinwort Euro Wts	22½	- ½		
116	77	Kleinwort H Inct	78	...	12.8	
272½	213	Kleinwort O'seast	214½		2.0	
165	115	Kleinwort Smlr	115	- 1	3.4	
201	78½	Latin American	78½	- 4½		
826	672	Law Debenture	739	- 6	3.3	
129	93	Lazard H Inct	95	- ½	8.4	
97	77	Lloyds Sm Cap	78			
35	28	Lloyds Sm Div	28		15.8	
129	105	Lloyds Sm Ptg	105	- 1	4.2	
174	141	Lon St Lawrence	164		4.8	
108	78½	Lon Smaller Cos	80½		4.9	
334	265	Lowland	285		4.1	
1440¾	887½	Lyderbeg	1250		1.8	
620	495	M&G 2nd Dual Cap	515	- 3		
151	115	M&G 2nd Dual In	116		25.8	
2773	2440	M&G Dual Cap	2535	- 8		
353	243	M&G Dual Inc	245			
77	54	M&G Inc Geared	62½	- ½	10.3	
34½	26½	M&G Inc Inv Tst Cap	26½			
45	35½	M&G Inc Inv Tst Inc	36½		19.2	
137	117	M&G Inc Package	117		5.4	
59	50	M&G Inc Zero Div	56½			
36½	27	M&G Rec Cap	27½			
72½	56½	M&G Rec Geared	56½	- ¼	8.7	
37½	28	M&G Rec Inc	29½		17.0	
151	127	M&G Rec Pacge	133		3.8	
80½	68	M&G Rec Zero Div	73½	- 1½		
128	99	M Curie Euro	103	- 1	0.4	
180	119	M Curie Pac	124	- 1	0.3	
227	183	Majedie	183	- 1	3.6	
57	44	Mcmahn	45			
324	237	Merchants	242	- 2	5.8	
90	78½	Mercury Euro Pr	79½	- ½	0.9	
45	24½	Mercury Eur Wt	25	- ½		
125	82	Mercury World	82	- 3	1.0	
52½	18	Mercury Wld Wts	18	- 2		
595	482	Monks Inv Tst	486	- 3	1.8	
158	126	Mong Grm Inc	126	- 1	4.8	
64	38	Mong Wts	47			
111	49	Mong Latn Amer	49	- 4½		
65	22½	Mong Wts	22½	- 2½		
148	104	Murray Ent	110½	- ½	2.4	
58	25	Murray Ent Wts	26			
92	73	Murray Emg Eco	74½	- 1		
42	26	Murray Em Ec Wt	27	- 1		
68	54	Murray Eurot	56½		0.8	
23½	13	Murray Em Wts	13½			
393	308	Murray Income	311	- 2	4.9	
355	296	Murray Intl	312	- 1	5.1	
164½	153	Murray S/C DP	163	+ ¼		
174	126	Murray S/C Cap	126	- 1		
87	73½	Murray S/C Inct	74		17.9	
3400	2850	Murray S/C Ult	2925	- 75	4.5	
548	377	Murray Small	378	- 4	1.4	
363	302½	Murray Vent	327	- 1	4.4	
58	15	Newmarket	16			
95	54	Nrthrog Inct	54		10.0	
104	61	Nrthrog Cap	65	+ 1		
404	316	O'seas Inv Tst	318	- 2	1.3	
241	161	O'seas Wts	161	- 3		
640¾	362	Pacific Assets	431	- 6	0.4	
542	268	Pacific Wts	331	- 7		
120	76	Perpetual Jap	79½	- ½		
9400	7300	Personal Assets	8700	- 100	2.8	
153	112	Pilot Inv	112		1.7	
96	81	Pipes Euro Sm	81			
93	67¾	Prolific Inc	87¾	- ¾		
189	164	RIT Cap Ptnr	165	- 1	1.1	
38	28½	River Merc Amd Cap	28			
121	100	River Merc Am-Inc	100½		9.8	
17	9	River Merc Am Wts	9½			
150	114	River Merc Cap	114			
147	77½	River Merc Ex Inc	79		12.3	
49	10	River Merc Ex Inc Wts	10			
116	80	River Merc Grd Inct	81		11.6	
36	23	River Merc Grd Pf	26			
137	108	River Merc Tst Inct	106		10.8	
170	112	River Merc Sml Cor	112		4.6	
77	20	River Merc Sm Wt	20			
449	394	Robeco	397		3.5	
463	398	Rolinco	400		1.9	
99	67	Schrod Jap Gwth	72½	- ½		
52	25	Schrod Jap Gwth Wt	30½	- ½		
1112¾	731½	Schrod Korea Fd	739½		0.2	
650½	350¼	Sch Korea Fd Wt	354¼			
113½	103	Sch Spl Zero Div	112½	+ ¼		
37	27½	Sch Split Fd Cap	27½			
129	107½	Sch Split Fd Inct	108		8.7	
99	86	Schrod UK Gwth	88	- 1	2.1	
42	28	Schrod UK Gwth Wt	29			
262½	200	Scot	204½	+ ½	3.2	
183	147½	Scot American†	148½	- ½	4.2	
368	216	Scot Asian	230	- 4		
1070	555	Scot Wts	560	- 5		
97½	74½	Scot Eastern	75½	+ ½	2.6	
284½	205	Scot Mtge	207	- 1	2.5	
106½	81½	Scot Natl Tst†	81½	- ½	11.5	
133½	100½	Scot Value	101½		2.5	
1795	1475	Second Alliance	1530	- 1	3.5	
106	76	Secs Tst of Scot	78		5.2	
179	126	Selective Assett	126		1.6	
161	123	SHIRESCOT†	125		5.7	
51½	31¼	Sphere Inv	31½	- ½	16.2	
343	290	St Andrew Inv	296		3.5	
412	310	Temple Barr	318	- 3	5.5	
135	90	Thmls Asian E	97	- 2	0.6	
35	16¼	Thrag Dual Cpt	34			
101	68	Throgmorton†	68½	- ¼	4.2	
164¼	98	Tolson Emg Mkt	100½	- 1½	0.9	
177½	133½	TR City Of Lon	140	- 1½	4.7	
181½	148	TR Euro Growth	171	+ 1	1.2	
305	127	TR Far East†	135	- 2	5.4	
124½	80	TR Pacifict	97	- 1½	0.2	
43¼	27¼	TR Property	30¼	- ¼	3.7	
228	172	TR Smir Cost	172	- 2	2.8	
152	100	TR Tech Inv	101	- 1	2.2	
405	177	Turkey Trust	186		1.3	
269	221	USDC Invest	221		2.6	
103	93	Undervalued Ast	94½	- 1		
129	108	Value Inc Tst	108½	- ½	4.8	
43	31¼	Warrants & Val	31¼			
109	81	Wigmore	62	- 1	1.0	
257½	205	Witan†	214½	+ 1	3.6	
113	89	Yeoman Inct	89	- 1	19.2	

LEISURE & HOTELS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
40	26	Abdn Sth H	32			
578¼	414	Airtours	474	- 1	3.6	9.1
46½	17	Aid Lest	22			
177	135	Alpha Airpts	138½	- 1½	3.6	
48	36	Arcadian	41			
138	85	Balcwort	111		4.5	
315	219	Barr & Wall	219		6.5	
260	135¾	Bluebird Toys	245	- 7	4.2	7.1
365	231	Boosey Hwks	335		1.9	19.8
7¼	2½	Brent Walker	2½			
200	100	Bristol Scotts	178		2.1	
7¼	¼	Buckingham Intl	¼			
256	114	Chrysalis	253			
94	73	City Centre Rest	72		3.1	14.6
374	305	Compass Grt	307	- 2	2.7	16.0
290	232	Eurocamp†	248		5.3	11.1
213	78	Euro Disney	152	- 3		
4	2	Euro Leisure	2½			
455	308	Fortune Boats†	414		4.7	19.1
131	81	First Choicet	109		4.4	28.5
350	245	First Leisuret	276		3.2	17.5
285	209½	Forte	231	+ 1	4.1	27.3
207	160	Friendly Hotels	160		4.5	26.8
79	49	GR Hldgs	55		2.5	
598	475	Granada†	502	+ 2	2.5	15.0
118	95	Groupe Chez Ger	108	- 2		14.9
96	28	Hi-Tec Sports	29		12.0	4.3
216	106	Hornby	106		10.8	9.3
187½	142½	Jurys Hotel	184	- ½	3.7	16.6
18¾	11¼	Kunick†	17¼		3.6	20.1
289	200	London Clubs	265		5.8	13.5
217½	145	Ladbroke	171	- 1	4.5	
104	49	Magnolia	49		0.3	
140½	107½	Man Utd	124		4.2	20
109½	64½	Mandarin Orntl	74½	+ 1	4.2	19.7
15	10¼	My Kinda Town	11¼		1.1	
81	34	Northern	73		5.1	12.1
102	65½	Pelican Grt	76		2.1	15.8
141	109	PizzaExpress†	128		2.1	15.9
183	90	Prism Leisure	90		5.8	6.4
43	21	Quadrant Grp	30			
279	205	Ramsdens (H)†	225		2.5	
447¼	355½	Rank Orgt	367	+ 4	4.5	18.0
31½	18½	Ryan Hotels Ic	28	- 1	4.6	16.0
1135	790	Savoy Hotel 'A'	930		0.5	
92	60¾	Stakist	79	+ 1	2.5	18.5
386	296¾	Stanley Leisure	377	- 2	1.8	20.7
345½	280	Tanjong	280		0.7	15.7
1165	959	Thorn EMI	1028	- 3	4.2	18.7
167	75	Tottenhm Hot	155	- 3	0.8	16.1
176	139	VCI	176		1.5	15.7
149	112	Vardont	138		1.4	
18	5	Wembley	6			
149	107	Zetters Gp	117		10.1	9.1

MEDIA

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
365	270	Abbot Mead	337	- 2	2.2	30.5
356	198	Adscene†	256		3.0	18.5
33	7½	Aegis Gp	22½	- 1		
11¾	2½	Allied Radio	2¾			
26	13	BBB Design	13			35.9
235	155	Barbour Index	188	- 2	5.8	16.8
13½	5	Brindale	5½			
345	330	Black (A&C)	320		5.3	11.6
402	178	Blenheim Gp	188	- 4	6.9	7.0
206	133	Border TV†	202		2.7	17.7
413	353	Bristol	353		4.4	35.9
279	244	B Sky B	253			47.6
169	117½	CIA Gp	137	+ 3	1.6	22.2
26½	22½	Caledonian Med	25			
439	325½	Capital Radio	373	- 1	2.4	33.3
1047	797	Carlton Commt	868	- 3	3.0	15.9
99	76	City of Lon	86		6.4	13.1
1050	1100	Daily Mail	1393¾		1.5	23.7
1484¾	868¾	Daily Mail 'A'	1056½	- 9¾	2.0	17.9
329	280	Dorling Kind	296	- 1½	1.4	31.7
489	355	EMAP	402½	+ 2½	2.8	22.2
682½	538	Elsevier	611	+ 16½	3.4	18.2
1975	1450	Euromoney Pb	1553	- 5	3.4	22.4
17½	8	Fach	10½			
485	309	Fledech	356			
1033	675	GWR Grp	883		1.8	
275	143	Gold Greenlesst	165		3.0	19.9
34	18	Goodhead	20	- 1	0.3	
356	228	Grampian	273	- 1	3.7	14.6
172	106	HTV Group	158	- 1	1.8	
194	32	Harrington K	36		3.5	
515	288	Haynes Pub	313		3.6	17.3
408	298	Hodder Hline	314		2.1	51.1
180	120	Home Counts	153		4.1	31.5
340	250	Independent	268		2.8	13.8
238	161	Int Bus Comm	231		1.9	11.2
162	119	Intereurope	125		7.2	34.3
167¾	137¾	Johnston Press	141		1.7	19.7
33½	15	Lopex	15		2.1	17.0
110	43	MAID	60	- 1		
565	338	Metal Bulletn	559	- 1	2.7	
177½	108	Midland Ind	115		3.7	
203	120	Mirror Gp	128	- 1	1.0	6.8
431	344	More O'Ferrall	347	- 1	4.9	
343	231	News Corp	270	- 3	0.5	18.0
314	201	News Intl	266	- 17	1.1	5.2
60	23½	Ospray Comms	30			
735	540	Pearson	553		3.0	19.0
440	179	Phonelink	179	- 3		
760	601	Portsmth Sund	601		2.3	12.4
339	214	Quarto	214		3.5	11.7
964	722	Reed Intl	729	- 2	3.3	12.1
539¼	404	Reuters	447	- 5	2.3	20.3
178	84	Saatchi	84½	- 1½		
256	158	Scott Radio	248		2.7	19.7
574	555	Scot TV	426		3.7	28.7
48½	28½	SelecTV	29½	- ½		
57	20½	Shandwick†	32½		5.0	
252	187	Smithsrest	222		1.9	22.3
200	33	Sterling Pub	33		14.1	3.0
153	117	Sunset & Vine	135		4.0	10.9
40½	25½	Taylor Nelson	32½		2.2	20.8
622	310	Telecapo	422	- 3	3.5	17.8
885	695	Trinity Cont	725	- 10	5.1	36.7
472	337	Trinity Int	339	- 2	3.7	15.6
760	518	Ulster TV	664		3.1	20.4
731	464	Utd Newspprs	551	- 1	5.7	12.1
161	91	VTR	97		5.2	10.4
36¼	6½	WMGC	9¼		13.9	4.4
129	63½	WPP	128		1.3	13.6
426	150	Yorkshire TV	410	...		

MINING

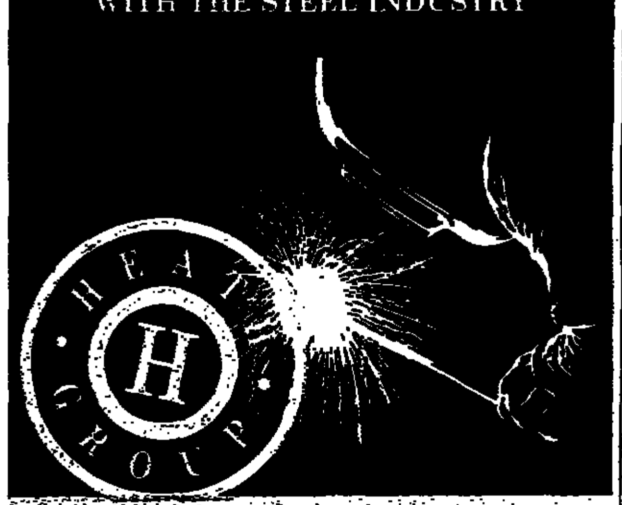
1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
115	65	Alex Corp	90		4.1	
4625	1762½	Ang Am Coal	3789¼	- 121¼	3.4	20.6
3796¼	2509¾	Ang Am	3125		2.3	29.2
7331¼	4593¼	Ang Am Gold	5231¼		2.0	14.3
36	22	Anglo Pac Res	23			
1512¼	1195¼	Ashanti	1331¼		1.2	16.2
166	94	Ashton	54	- 4	5.3	
404	155	Bamrale	165	- 10		
481	294¼	Bascort	363		5.3	19.0
39	29	Boston	29	- 2	2.3	25.0
184	83¼	Brewers	85½			
64	27	Scugaumshe	32	- 1		
37	12¼	Bracken	13½		6.4	
896	352½	Buffels	415¼		12.6	
6	1¼	Bxte	[illegible]			
968	745½	CRA	808	+ 15	3.4	19.7
77	42	Central Pacific	43	- 1		
56½	36	Chill Res	44¼			
143	25	Coal Inv	73			
300	65	Cons Murchison	176	- 5	3.3	4.3
1790	1262½	De Beers	[illegible]		[illegible]	[illegible]
149	58	Eastfield	92½		5.9	5.3
101¼	30½	Doornfontein	37¼			
1036½	665	Driefontein	765¼		5.7	10.9
941¼	527½	Durban	[illegible]			
235¼	107	E Rand Gold	[illegible]		14.2	3.5
122¼	59½	E Rand Prop	65½			
75	45	Eastern Trans	45		5.0	11.2
515	320½	Elandsrand	[illegible]		[illegible]	9.2
447¼	320	Eng China Cl	[illegible]	- 11	[illegible]	16.9
1239	712½	FS Cons	[illegible]			
52	27	FS Dev	[illegible]			
3091¼	1135¼	GFSA	1431¼		[illegible]	16.2
80¼	40	[illegible]	45		3.0	[illegible]
239¼	109¼	Gencor	197		[illegible]	19.3
152	75	Gold Fields Prop▼	144	- 1	7.2	
22	12¼	Greenwich	[illegible]			
202	105½	Grootvlei	[illegible]		[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]			
302½	88	NSM	[illegible]			9.2
201¼	133	Nth Bkn Hill	[illegible]	- 2	3.6	[illegible]
94	45	[illegible]	[illegible]			
101	66	[illegible]	[illegible]			
463	170	[illegible] Tin	[illegible]		0.9	
199	122½	Placer Pac	[illegible]			
425	317	RJB	[illegible]		4.7	15.6
905	721	RTZ	[illegible]	- 16	4.0	
49	29	Rackwood	35			
675	167½	Rand Mines	575		1.9	22.9
840¼	411½	Randfontein	415¼		11.4	5.5
295	175	Renison	[illegible]	- 2		
1809¾	1072½	Rustenburg	[illegible]		[illegible]	34.0
112	49	St Barbara	50			
156	[illegible]	St Helena	[illegible]			
230	135	Sons Gwalia	[illegible]	- 3	[illegible]	13.4
30	16	[illegible] Pacific	[illegible]			
2987½	1409¾	Southvaal	1520		5.2	19.1
143	73	Stilfontein	139½		[illegible]	3.2
261¼	90	Unisel	125		7.6	5.0
7600	3868¾	Vaal Reefs	3912½		5.5	6.5
33	7½	[illegible]	[illegible]		11.2	2.6
7	¾	[illegible]	¾			
545	450	[illegible]	479		3.3	17.9
2575	1521¼	Western Deep	1530¼		4.6	6.9
392	300½	Western Mng	315	- 6	1.7	33.9
1225	562½	Winkelhaak	565½		5.5	7.9
66	34	Zambia Copper	34	- 3		
68	43	Zandpan	43		10.0	10.0

OIL & GAS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
46½	24¼	Aran Energy	45½	- ¼		27.6
53	35	Arcon Intl	41			
74¼	45	Aus Oil & Gas	46½	- 1		
68	43	Amoq Pet	50			
255	197	Br Borneo	253		3.5	11.9
358	253	British Gas	286		6.5	16.6
437½	340	Br Petroleum†	396	- 2	3.3	14.1
4	1¾	Bola Resources	2¾			
919	783	Burmah Castrl	844	- 4	4.1	16.8
88	56	Cairn Energy	81	- 1		44.6
375	253	Calor Gp	256		6.1	12.3
51	33	Clyde Pet	37		1.2	
30	7¾	Copley Res	7¾			
2½	1½	Dragon Oil	1½			
27½	17	Edin Oil & Gs	20			21.6
486	370	Enterprise	335		5.1	
27	8	Fairhaven Intl	8		15.2	3.3
309	240	Fogas	240		6.7	9.9
8¼	4¼	Fortune	5			31.9
77	54	Goal Pet	66	- 2	2.7	21.9
47	31	Gt Western Res	39	- 1		
177	129	Hardy O & G	153	- 1	0.8	19.6
55	40	Kelt Energy	54		3.1	21.7
169	110½	Lasmo	151		0.8	
73	38	Lasmo Units	40		24.5	
75	55	Monument	60½	- ½		64.9
7½	3½	New London	5½			
2584¾	1912½	Norsk Hydro	2362½	+ 28¼	1.9	
9½	3¼	Oceonics	4¼			
50	36	Oil Search	39			
50¼	17½	Pentex	31¼			
194	140	Pict Pet	184			
32½	21	Premier	23½			
158	43	Presidio	43			15.5
111	68	Pidemore Rs	69			
345	129	Ramco Egy	300	- 4	0.2	
463	325	Ranger	373	- 7	5.3	
7700	6681½	Royal Dtch Fl	7112½	+ 31¼	4.9	
4084¾	3221½	Schlumberger	3509¾	- 15¾	2.1	
68	39	Scott Pickford	39		2.9	7.5
90	50	Sedfield	90			
758	651	Shell	704	+ 6	4.9	
187	116	Sunrise Eng Sv	116			
4237½	3287½	Total	3434¾	+ 106¼	2.7	16.7
19	8½	Villers Exp	9½			
245	178¼	Woodside	231	+ 10	1.6	
110	28	XCL	55	- 1		

OTHER FINANCIAL

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
165	75	BWD	79		6.9	
131	96	Baltic Plc	131		2.9	
185	55	Berry Bch Ntl	55	- 2	11.6	8.3
215	148	Bostec Inv	151	- 1		
154	108	Evans Dorunn	122	- 1	5.0	9.5
257	230	Caledonia	328		[illegible]	[illegible]
2650	1900	Camellia	[illegible]		[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	17¼	Carlisle	18		[illegible]	8.2
630¼	418	Cater Allen	433		[illegible]	17.5
174¼	125	Charles	159			57.5
65	26	Christie	26		0.9	9.5
16	12	EFG	14¼		[illegible]	14.8
71½	45½	EFT Group	58½		[illegible]	20.0
740	513	EPM	731		6.0	4.9
212	156	Exco	171	- 2	5.0	19.0
229	157	Gartmore	164	- 1	7.5	11.5
515	395	Gerrard Nat	400	- 2	6.6	16
465	269	Govett	279		5.8	13.5
1208	845	Henderson Ad	975	- 7	[illegible]	[illegible]
251½	151	Invesco	165		[illegible]	14.1
50	37	Investment Co	46		[illegible]	15.7
250	165	Ivory Sime	207		[illegible]	9.6
317	195½	Jardine Str	235½	- ½	[illegible]	[illegible]
428	95	Johnson Fry	116		12.6	[illegible]
170	89	King Shaxson	89		[illegible]	
245	131	Lon Forfaitng†	134	- 2	3.4	15.3
124	95	Lon Scot Bk	117		[illegible]	16.9
1243	794	M & G	964	- 1	[illegible]	12.3
225	210	MAI	[illegible]			
117½	85½	MAI 5.9% Cv Pf	96½	- 1		
907	538	M&M	740	- 2	3.9	17.3
252½	85	Nat Home Loan	101½	- 8¾		9.3
1369	970	Perpetual	1228		[illegible]	13.3
573	415	Provident	548	+ 3	[illegible]	15.5
365	245	Rathbone Br	275		3.9	13.6
29	21½	Rutland Tst	23		4.4	12.9
369	281½	S & U	302	- 5	[illegible]	9.9
425	132	Searelin	144		[illegible]	5.4
188	105	SJP Capital	197		3.5	7.6
499	325	Smith New Ct	399	- 11	2.6	5.5
224	73	Tousy Lawt	[illegible]		7.9	17.4
65	23	Tmg Hldgs	[illegible]		0.5	39.4
199	72	Union	[illegible]	- 1	5.2	
31	20	Western Selectn	[illegible]	- 1	1.4	



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133 HOUNDSDITCH LONDON EC3A 7AH TELEPHONE: 0171 234 4000

PHARMACEUTICALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
615	311½	Brit Biotech	468	+ 5		
488	163	Cantab Pharms	165			
271	191	Celltech	251			
151	89	Chiroscience	[illegible]	- 1		
47	34	Cortecs	35			
157	103	Fisons	144½	- 2½	3.8	
725	520	Glaxo†	670½	- 3½	5.2	16.2
185	93½	Grampian Hdg	116	- 1½	5.9	21.4
187	120	Medeva	176	- 1	[illegible]	14.2
3	1	Premier Health	1			
330	227	Quality Care	235		2.4	11.6
355	242	Scotia	335	- 2		
83	43	Shield Diag	43			
515	357½	SmithKlineB†	501	- 2	3.2	
494	322	SmithKline Uts†	482	- 2	3.5	
1047	498	Wellcome	1035	- 6	2.8	21.9
934	672	Zeneca	879	- 1	4.1	19.4

PRINTING & PAPER

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
184	120	AG Holdings	120		5.7	11.3
444	335	API	414	+ 4	2.7	19.7
316	219	Arjo Wiggins	346	- 3	3.3	37.1
295	145	Aspen Comc	164		[illegible]	16.6
472	347	Bemrose	361		4.3	12.9
524	287	Bowater	396	+ 1	4.1	14.9
2112¾	1379½	Bowater Inct	1862½	- 30¾		
297	242	Boxmore Intl	279		1.8	17.0
515	435	Br Polythene	502	- 3	3.4	
176	25	Br Thornton	26		2.6	2.3
180¼	112	Bretton Grc	140	- 2	2.2	21.6
186	135	Bunzl	166		2.1	19.6
198	129	Caplier Inc	140		4.0	11.0
2446¾	1890¾	Carnaud MB	2162½	- 71¼	2.2	16.0
439	254	Cropper (James)	254		1.7	13.4
1054	825	De La Rue	896	- 3	3.0	16.1
114	59	Delyn Group	59		5.5	10.7
137	96	Dolphin Pack	96		5.9	12.3
101	75	Fairway Group	93	- 1	5.6	
430	295	Ferguson Intl	317	- 2	5.0	12.7
145	103	Ferry Pick	103		7.0	
30	1½	Huntprint	1½			
230	138	Inveresk	145	- 2	3.7	
295	238	James Porter	287	- 2	2.2	18.7
438	364	Low & Bonar	424	- 1	3.5	13.9
63	44½	MY Holdings	50	- 1	4.0	11.9
271	225	Macfarlane	230		[illegible]	18.5
160	150	Photobition	152		4.9	11.1
250	148	Rexam	166	- 5	3.7	30.3
1089	513	Portals	1040	- 3	2.0	28.2
412	314	St Ives Gp	325		2.4	17.8
1153¾	464¼	Sappi	1071½	- 1¾	0.5	
30½	6½	Senil	2½	- ½		
351¼	145	Saxon	162		9.0	
573	398	Smith David	556	- 1½	2.9	16.3
429¼	274¼	Smurfit (Jeff)	368		1.5	52.5
119	82	Seriol	84		3.7	10.0
45	13¼	Und Glass	#21			
270	132	Wace	223		3.2	14.3
291	187	Waddington (J)	195		5.6	9.4
511	350	Watmough	357		2.4	22.6
149	98	Wyndeham	137		2.6	17.5

PROPERTY

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
139	32	Allied Lon	82	- 1	5.9	10.5
276	253	Argent	256			
30	63	Arlesan Est	70			
144	102	Asda	106		2.7	18.6
257½	225	[illegible]	226	- 1	5.4	16.4
232	158	[illegible]	199		4.3	17.3
39½	7	Bolton Gp	[illegible]			
105	61	Bourne End	61		1.5	
179	170	Bradford	194	- 2	4.4	16.3
137	103	Brightstone†	114		4.0	
374	343	Br Land	364	+ 1	2.7	34.6
176	169	Brixton	172	- 1	5.7	15.8
116	61	Burford†	94		2.3	
[illegible]	38	CLS Hldgs	99		6.2	
207½	129	Cap & Regnl	131		1.5	39.6
223	197	Cap Shop Cntr	193		4.5	
[illegible]	158	Cardiff Prop	163		1.9	27.8
66	20½	Carraw Ind	21			
185	143	Chelsfield	144		2.1	48.9
678	413	Chesterfield	452		3.4	30.3
112	78	Chesterton Int	78		5.4	13.0
84	36	City Site Ests	47			11.0
12½	5½	Clarke Nicholls	6		2.1	12.5
87½	50	Compco	70		7.1	6.2
38	[illegible]	Conrad Ritbl GSI	21½	+ 1½	3.8	25.2
1756	1180	Daejan	1190		3.0	12.3
15½	7	Dares Estates	4	- ¼		
17	4	De Morgan	#5½			
156	58	Debenhm Twsn	71		6.2	11.3
199	155	Dencora	156		2.6	44.4
347¼	230	Derwent Hldgs	233	- 3	2.5	20.8
[illegible]	16½	Development Sec	[illegible]		0.7	
51	41	Draycl	42		2.2	19.9
51	25	Eleco	32			
460	275	Estates Agency	339		4.7	
47	18	Estates Gen	18			
132	97	Evans Of Leeds	97		3.4	16.2
43½	21½	Ex-Lands	22½		2.3	78.5
80	64	Focal Prop	68		1.1	
51	33½	Five Oaks	24½		2.6	10.3
78	19	Fletcher King	20		9.4	9.9
51	38	Folkes Group	43		4.4	
51	36	Folkes Group nv	39		4.8	22.1
536	405	Frogmore	435	+ 2	4.9	15.7
273	228	Grainger	248		3.0	13.7
360	167½	Gt Portland	172	+ 2	6.0	29.4
226½	117½	Greycoat	119	- 5	0.6	
34	22	Hambro Cntyw	27		0.2	
435	298	Hammerson	319		3.9	32.0
390	294	Helical Bar	301	- 2	2.5	10.8
40¼	24	Hemingway	24	- ½	2.1	41.2
78	10	Herring Baker	16	+ 1	7.8	
75	31	High-Point†	50		2.5	
269	109	HK Land	119	- 2	5.4	15.6
311½	136½	Jermyn	158			79.1
792	543	Land Sec	589	- 3	5.1	16.9
367	322	London Indl	322		3.9	17.7
43½	34½	Lon & Assoc	34½	- 1	2.3	23.3
16	6	Lon & Metro	7			0.2
132	86	Lon Merch Sec	92	- 1	5.7	15.3
562	353	MEPC	387		6.5	22.6
13½	5½	McInerney A	6	- ½		
190	133	McKay Secst	134	- 1	4.9	12.8
85	48	Merivale Mre	62		4.6	9.7
56	27	Moorfield Est	29		4.3	
1425	900	Mountview	1009¾		2.8	7.8
196	138	Muckow (A&J)	139		5.7	18.5
2½	[illegible]	ORB	¾			1.0
64	24	Olives Prop	24			9.0
191	133	PSIT†	133		4.6	17.8
399	218	Peel†	236		2.6	31.9
162	138	Pillar Prop	153½		3.0	
12½	1½	Power Corp	1½			
9¼	4¼	Premier Land	5			17.5
79	58	RPS Group	79		4.7	
63	28	Raglan	30			7.3
40	28	Regalian	30	- 3		4.9
180	130	Rowlinson Secs	120		1.9	8.6
134	97	Rugby Est	100		3.8	3.8
64	40	St Modwen Prpt	47		4.3	8.4
78	59	Saville Grdn (J)†	60		5.8	14.2
100	44	Savills	44		6.4	7.1
188	64	Scot Met	71		3.5	8.6
135	86	Shaftesbury	90		1.4	19.7
307	207½	Slough Estates	227		4.5	48.5
103	41	Southend Prop	43		7.1	
133	100	Specty Shops	108		2.8	
50	2¾	Stanhope Prps	3			
44	34	TBI	39			1.8
244	163	Tops Est†	165		1.7	42.0
130½	93½	Town Centre	97		3.9	18.0
107	79	Trafford Park	80		4.9	13.6
29½	15	Trencherwood	19			7.5
58	28	UK Land	40			
317	192	Warnert	197		7.2	19.2
260	218	Warnfordr	230		4.2	19.0
103½	62	Wates	65			
45	25	Wharney Mck	37			
105	43	Wood John Dt	44		5.7	9.5
30	15	YRM	18			

RETAILERS, FOOD

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
70	50½	ASDA Groupt	69½	+ 1½	3.3	16.0
315	222½	Argyll	282	+ 5	5.2	13.0
505	413	Brake Bros	464		1.9	16.7
43	23	Budgen†	36	+ 1½	3.5	21.8
17	11½	Cullens	11½			
137	65½	Dairy Farm Intl	78½	- 1½	4.5	11.1
394	344	Fairpak	347	- 2	2.5	17.0
60	37	Fitzwilton	80		11.3	
110	87	Fyffes†	107	- 2	1.7	
371	165	Geest	165	- 4	6.1	
1080	653	Greggs	1063	+ 10	2.2	20.0
211	133	Iceland Group	150	- 2	3.3	9.3
656	513	Kwik Save	520	- 2	4.5	9.5
18	9	Merchant Retail	13			
149	99	Morrison (W)	139		0.9	16.2
232	126	Nurdin Peacc	165		5.0	9.1
146	89½	Park Foods†	113		2.9	10.0
5¼	1½	Regina Hlth	1½			
480	342	Sainsbury J	409	+ 2½	3.3	14.5
258	200½	Tesco	246½	- 1	4.1	13.3
198	142	Thornton	143		4.3	11.6
422	279	Watson& Philip	364	- 2	5.3	13.7

RETAILERS, GENERAL

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
80	24	Alexon	24			
248	199	Alders	207		4.0	11.7
410	307	Argos Plc	345	+ 1	3.0	18.2
102	54½	Ashley (Laura)	72		0.2	
357	94	Aspley	94	- 12	8.0	7.7
346	176	Austin Reed	212½		3.2	10.7
168	126	Beattie (J) 'A'	127		6.1	16.6
150	110	Bemallo	115		2.2	37.8
165	36	Bettaware	39	- 2	9.1	4.2
48	29	Blacks Leis	31		9.1	
264	167	Body Shop	182		1.5	16.0
681	458¼	Boots	476	- 4	4.1	15.2
12½	1½	Brown & Jackson	1½			
263	205	Brown (N)	229	- 1	3.3	20.4
74¼	51	Burton	69		3.6	34.0
245	115	Carlton†	115	- 4	4.3	16.4
304	220	Carpetright	262		3.9	18.6
346	140	Chrisltes Int	143	- 1	1.7	25.5
520	386	Church	480		3.4	24.4
187	80	Clinton Cards	80		7.4	11.6
170	81	City Casualt	97		5.5	27.8
903	720	Coats Furnshr	785		1.0	40.0
210	155	Crown Eye	185		6.8	7.7
258	238	DFS Furniture	246		3.7	18.5
287	170	Dixons Gp	206	- 2	4.1	21.9
580	530	Dys (Wimclm)	580		3.8	27.2
11½	7½	ERA Gp	9			
284	103	Essex Furnt	109	- 2	5.3	12.1
226	170	Etam	184		5.2	10.2
558	320	Fine Art Dev	321	- 1	5.6	9.9
68	26	Fired Earth	49			
106	71	Flying Flowers†	95		2.5	12.4
278	124	French Conn	277			11.7
264	206	Frost Group	233		2.9	22.5
66	49	Gieves	53	- 1	3.6	18.6
136	85	Goldsmiths Gp	117		2.0	21.0
653	483	GUS†	519	+ 3	3.3	14.9
196	164	Hamleys	184	- 1	3.2	17.3
38	21	Hampden Grp	33	- ½	3.8	
237	143	Hse of Fraser	143	- 1	4.4	12.9
95	68½	Hughes (TJ)	80		4.0	13.1
255	228	JJB Sports	248	- 2	3.0	15.2
778	379	Kingfisher	440	+ 5	4.2	11.6
276	100	Kleeneze†	107		1.8	30.5
435	243	Liberty	243		2.5	
380	236	Lloyds Chem	237	- 48	5.2	7.6
184	108	MFI	110		4.7	13.8
460½	368½	Marks Spencer	378	+ 2½	3.1	16.8
680	495	Menzies (John)†	510	- 3	3.0	12.1
377	338	Moss Bros	347		3.1	13.7
275	214	Next	262	- 1½	3.2	16.1
59	20	OEM	31			
97	39	Oliver (G)	91	- 1	1.4	
113	73	Partridge Finet	86		4.8	9.6
37	4½	Pentos	4½			
268	130	QS Hldgs	130		5.8	14.2
62	7½	Rhino Grp	8½			
209	116	Rosebys	116	- 1	5.1	13.6
132	96	Sears	97½	- 1	4.8	16.5
46	16½	Signet Group	16½	- ½		5.7
549	404	Smith WH†	409		4.8	21.0
1260	663	Sotheby†	663	- 15	3.9	32.0
252	189	Storehouse	214½	+ ½	3.3	17.6
306	151½	Stylo	169		2.0	11.4
198	146	T & S Stores	155	- 3	5.0	11.0
173	99	Tie Rack	99		2.2	11.8
63¼	3½	Upton & South	3½			
539	384	Vendome	435	+ 2	2.3	33.5
70	27	WEW Group	27		3.2	22.8
93½	52	Wld of Leather	58	- 1	1.8	
195	138	Wyevale	158	+ 2	3.9	

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
683	491	Allied Domecq	504	+ 2	5.8	13.6
459	358	Bulmer (HP)	399		3.5	21.8
140	105	Burn Stewart	112		5.6	24.6
506	352	Grand Mett	370	- 2	4.7	16.7
543	404	Guinness	408	- 2	4.0	13.4
457	353	Highland Dist	388		2.3	17.7
222	127	Macallan-Glen	204		0.7	51.5
710	366	Macdn Mrtn 'A'	640		1.9	27.5
614	515	Matthew Clark	544		4.3	25.0
250	61	Mrydvm W	83		3.8	
190	140	Taunton Cider	140	- 2	6.0	10.9

SUPPORT SERVICES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
187	73	ACT Group	97	+ 1	6.8	10.2
743	583	ADT	675			
46	34	Alphameric	35½	- ½		27.1
140	43	Auto Sec	61	- 3		7.9
162	99	BET Ord	104		4.1	14.9
195	115	BNB Res	156	- 1	4.1	18.2
255	175	BPP	225	+ 5	4.9	16.1
186	130	BSM	153		5.3	13.0
3¼	¾	Black & Edg	[illegible]			
1100	500	Borland	562½	- 12½		
226	128	Brit Data Mgt	128	- 2	5.3	8.9
79	57	Brooks Service	64		3.4	
117½	75	CRT Grp	84		5.0	20.6
238	150	Capita Groupt	153		2.7	
423	277½	Chubb Sec	296		2.9	17.2
243	105	Contrac People	226		1.4	51.5
73	41	Corp Servicest	69		3.6	
97	48	Coutts Consltg	52	+ 3	1.0	
278	212	Davis Service	217		4.7	14.8
83	66	Dudley Jenkinst	71		5.9	13.5
154	79	EW Fact	80		7.7	6.0
199¼	135	El Data Prct	138		1.8	13.5
334	261	Hays	294	...	2.7	19.9
289	147	Hogg Robinsn	150		6.1	9.6
39	18	Holmes Protectn	28			1.7
15	8	Inl Cnr & Gas	11			5.6
2696¼	1556¼	ISS B DK	1956¼	+ 28¼	1.1	9.9
168	126	JBA Hldgs	164		1.8	16.7
414	227	Johnson Clean	235	+ 1	5.7	9.5
145	94	Kalamazoo	94	- 1	4.6	18.6
298	221	Kewill Sys	388		3.5	9.8
35	17	Lazer-Scan	19			
143¼	68	LDMS	113	- 1		
8	4	Lep				
326	266	Logica	313	+ 3	2.0	22.1
264	65¼	MDIS†	79	+ 1	8.9	
208	143	MMT Comp	186		3.5	14.7
216	102	MR Data Mngt	106	- 2	6.5	13.1
723	398	Macro 4t	400		6.4	11.3
1868¼	1156¼	Manpower	1787½		0.2	
1330	693	Micro Focus	693	- 15		
178	101	Microgent	108		8.4	
548½	305	Misys†	317	+ 4	3.4	9.9
207	141½	MITIE Grt	205		1.6	20.8
35	22	Nouo Group	27		0.9	18.4
82	17	OIS Intl	18		13.2	3.4
31	18	Orbis	21		3.7	
85	60	P & P	81		4.1	9.7
134	65	Michael Page	115	- 1	2.5	28.2
143	90	Parity	115		1.9	
235	143	Pegasus	143	- 2	4.5	
115	82	Penna	96		5.3	
89¼	60½	Proudfoot	85		6.7	11.1
415	265	RCO†	265		7.6	9.6
48	27	Radius	33		1.3	
183	73	Real Time	156	- 2	3.2	12.0
177	104	Reed Executive	136		0.9	
163	105	Reliance Sec	146		4.3	32.2
279	199½	Rentokil	224	+ 6	1.9	18.9
194	135	Ricardo Group	138		5.4	18.8
215	147½	Rolfe & Nolan	170		2.9	27.1
752	507	Sage Gp	750		1.8	16.4
392	243	Salvesen (C)	250	- 3	4.1	12.9
94	76	Sanderson Elec	87		4.1	12.6
17½	9	Select App	13			
438	310	Sema Gp	395		1.3	
307	243	Serco Gp	262	- 2	1.9	
180	136	Servicair	174		2.7	28.2
130	75	Shield Grp	112			
130	88	Sketchley	88	- 1	4.5	14.8
254	167	Stat-Plus	180		6.8	
146	100	Unipalm	120			
31	12½	Vistec	13½		3.7	7.4
65	37	WSP Hldgs	43		6.0	
338	245	Walter Howrd	256		3.8	11.8

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
486	353½	BT	369½	- 3	5.8	15.3
543	350½	Cable Wireless	367	- 2	2.9	15.0
256	108	Filtronic Com	235	+ 5	0.4	48.6
1543	1146	Securicor	1495	- 3	0.3	34.1
1089	785	Securicor 'A'	910	- 8	0.5	30.8
892	606	Security Servt	738	- 10	1.1	20.6
188	167	Telewest	184	+ 1		
221	157½	Vodafone	187	- 1½	2.0	24.2

TEXTILES & APPAREL

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
138	75	Abbott	75		5.3	4.0
230	116	Alexdra W	118½	- 2½	6.1	12.6
617	456	Allied Text	456	- 1	3.7	14.0
169	72	Arlons	73		13.9	23.2
45	31	Automagic	31			7.8
270	200	Baird (Wm)	204	+ 3	5.5	17.4
77	35	Beckman (A)	44		10.2	21.6
290	226	Black (Peter)†	235	- 1	2.5	13.7
121	74	Brapport-Gndry	111		3.4	15.2
226	171	Br Mohair	183		5.8	18.8
74	20	Campari	#26			
104	69	Cassidy Brost	70		4.9	9.0
193	163	Chamb Phipps	172	- 1	5.3	22.6
285	289	Claremont Gt	290		3.2	16.1
287	168	Coats Viyella	167	- 2	6.2	14.5
593	410	Courtauld Text	416	- 4	4.3	18.7
159¾	92½	Dawson	97½	- 1	3.8	
143	97½	Dewhurst (U)	135	+ ½	1.6	19.2
52	32	Dinkie Heel	34		5.1	10.8
42	35	Drummond	30	...		13.5
38	13	Ebiel	30			
80	63	Fatpel	64		9.6	10.4
335	260	FII	335		5.6	25.0
156	136	Forminster	150		2.8	12.6
29	14	Foster (John)	19			
136	91	French (Thmas)	91		5.0	12.4
93	48	Gent SR	30		3.3	19.8
113	73	Haggast	88		4.3	12.1
70½	11	Hartstone	11½	- ½	3.4	
33	21½	Helene Plc	22		11.4	9.1
363	222	Hicking Pntcst	233		2.6	16.5
31	22	Hollast	22		3.4	
91	53	Honeysuckle†	54		6.9	6.3
122	48	Horace Small	121	+ 13	1.0	
211	173	Jacques Vert†	207		3.2	8.6
73	56	Jerome (S)	57		1.8	7.2
388	268	Jones Stroud†	330		3.4	16.1
202¼	122	Lambert	123	- 1	7.0	11.6
485	308	Lamont	308		5.1	10.2
340	247	Leeds	264		3.1	13.2
88	61	Leslie Wse Gpt	73		7.3	
101	68	Lyles (S)	83		5.3	8.7
27	18½	Marling	25	- ½	3.3	
17	10	PEX	10			
266	148	Parkland	148		4.2	8.8
123	84	Pendand	103		3.5	20.4
75	53	Pittard	66		3.3	
112	59	Readicut	62½		6.9	10.5
90	61	Rexmore	62		5.6	6.6
96	38	Richards	43		5.8	
70	42	SEET	54	- 1		
180	77	Sherwood Gp	79		4.8	9.2
190	131	Shiloh	131		3.3	8.0
146	93	Serca	93	...	7.3	13.5
64	50	Sterling Gp	52		4.7	14.3
36	16	Strong & Fisher	16		8.3	
69	34	UF Salary	36		9.0	8.8
142	105	Usher (Frank)†	132		7.6	7.8
143	42	Wensum	136	- 1	2.6	19.8
289	239	Yorklyde	260		3.8	11.9

TRANSPORT

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
85	58	Air London	64		6.8	13.2
777¼	619¼	All Nippon Air	654	- 1	0.3	
313¼	238	Assoc Br Ports	264	- 2	2.6	16.4
541½	414	BAA	424	+ 5	2.8	16.2
141	103½	Badgerline	141		3.6	
496½	344	Br Airways	387	+ 2	3.7	9.6
79	27	Central Tran R	29	- 1		
108	75	Clarkson (H)	102		2.1	25.6
179	140	Dart	148		3.3	14.3
59¼	196	Eurotunnel Uts	266	+ 4		
82	50	Fisher (James)	50			
508	405	Forth Ports	455		2.1	21.3
263	156	GRT Bus	262		1.8	20.3
193	113	Go-Ahead	190		2.7	20.3
222	125	Goode Durrant	214		3.7	18.8
155	124	IoM Steam	125		4.4	9.5
71	39	Jacobs (J)	54		3.8	
111	70	Lon O'Seas Frts	75	- 1	6.2	1.8
534	358	Mersey Dockst	368	- 5	3.6	
187	145	NFC†	171	- 1	5.2	17.5
347	245	Natl Express	318		3.0	18.4
348	244	Ocean Group	263	- 2	6.8	13.3
91	58	Ocean Wilson	72	- 1	5.6	10.4
743	549	P & O Dfd	557	+ 6	6.8	17.2
209	153	P & O 5.5%	171	+ 1	4.0	
102	84	Seacont	89		3.4	46.0
238	158	Stagecoach	237		2.2	23.5
131	83	TNT	83			
915	590	Tibbet & Britn	593		3.1	15.2
327	184	TDG	197		6.2	12.3
136	98	Upland	117	- 1	2.6	
160	75	Utd Carriers	93		2.2	

WATER

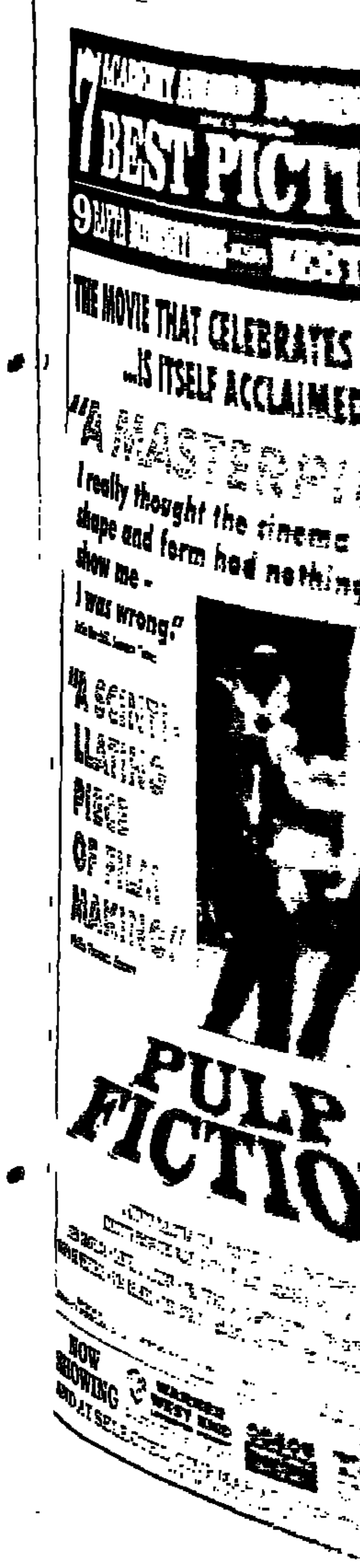
1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
607	443	Anglian	460	- 7	6.4	10.4
365	293	Mid Kent Hdgs	347		4.3	11.7
611	354	North West	505	- 12	5.9	7.3
690	509	Northumbrian	820	- 22	3.9	8.8
645	457	Severn Trent	493	- 17	5.9	8.2
3065	1525	South Staffs	2055		3.3	12.4
675	459	South West	465	- 15	7.0	6.9
682	466	Southern	528	- 18	5.6	7.6
671	434½	Thames	470	- 9	6.2	7.1
744	546	Welsh	582	- 23	5.6	6.4
379¼	295	Wessex	380	- 7	5.8	6.8
630	458	Yorkshire	497	- 19	5.3	7.3

Source: Finstat

£ USM # Price at suspension † Ex dividend ‡ Ex scrip ▲ Ex rights issue ▼ Ex all § Ex capital distribution * Figures or report awaited ... No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index

BRITISH FUNDS

1994/95 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
103	97	Gas 3% 1990-95	99		3.02	6.49
107	101	Exch 10¼% 1995	101		10.11	6.70
113	103	Treas 12¾% 1995	103		12.26	6.98
117	105	Treas 14% 1996	105		13.25	7.14
121	108	Treas 15¼% 1996	108		14.06	7.39
117	108	Exch 13¼% 1996	106		12.46	7.52
112	103	Conv 10% 1996	103		9.69	7.88
100	96	Treas 7% 1997	97		7.18	8.19
121	108	Treas 13¼% 1997	108		12.17	8.05
114	104	Exch 10½% 1997	104		10.08	8.11
110	100	Treas 8¾% 1997	100		8.67	8.31
131	114	Exch 15% 1997	115		13.02	8.39
114	103	Exch 9¾% 1998	103		9.46	8.50
105	95	Treas 7¼% 1998	96		7.50	8.48
102	93	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	95		7.09	8.50
131	114	Treas 14% 1998-01	114		12.21	8.64
140	120	Treas 15½% 1998	120		12.83	8.55
125	109	Exch 12% 1998	110		10.88	8.64
116	100	Treas 9½% 1999	102		9.25	8.62
128	111	Exch 12¼% 1999	111		10.95	8.70
121	105	Treas 10½% 1999	106		9.89	8.70
101	88	Treas 6% 1999	90		6.64	8.65
121	104	Conv 10¼% 1999	105		9.71	8.76
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
116	99	Conv 9% 2000	101		8.90	8.60
98	86	Treas 8% 2000	89		8.24	8.63
136	116	Treas 13% 2000	117		11.06	8.80
122	103	Treas 10% 2001	105		9.49	8.81
106	89	Treas 7% 2001	91		7.67	8.75
123	102	Treas 9¾% 2002	104		9.32	8.88
113	92	Treas 8% 2003	95		8.40	8.81
127	104	Treas 10% 2003	106		9.39	8.87
129	109	Treas 11½% 2001-04	111		10.31	8.95
86	69	Fund 3½% 1999-04	74		4.73	7.47
125	101	Conv 9½% 2004	104		9.13	8.84
105	84	Treas 6¾% 2004	87		7.75	8.73
100	97	Treas 8½% 2005	98		8.64	8.71
125	102	Conv 9½% 2005	104		9.10	8.81
143	118	Treas 12½% 2003-05	120		10.39	9.05
112	90	Treas 7¾% 2006	92		8.34	8.72
111	91	Treas 8% 2002-06	94		8.46	8.76
136	112	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	114		10.24	9.07
119	95	Treas 8½% 2007	98		8.65	8.71
151	124	Treas 13½% 2004-08	126		10.63	9.05
124	99	Treas 9% 2008	102		8.80	8.70
115	91	Treas 8% 2009	94		8.50	8.69
LONGS (over 15 years)						
98	77	Treas 6¼% 2010	80		7.81	8.56
126	100	Conv 9% 2011	102		8.76	8.66
127	100	Treas 9% 2012	103		8.74	8.64
93	71	Treas 5½% 2008-12	73		7.50	8.41
117	92	Treas 8% 2013	94		8.47	8.58
114	89	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	92		8.35	8.59
129	98	Treas 8¾% 2017	101		8.60	8.58
159	126	Exch 12% 2013-17	128		9.32	8.80
UNDATED						
54	39	War Ln 3½%	40		8.58	
37	27	Treas 2½%	28		8.65	
INDEX-LINKED						
204	197	Treas IL 2% 1996	204		2.08	3.73
119	106	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	107		2.94	3.82
178	163	Treas IL 2½% 2001	166		3.49	3.92
173	159	Treas IL 2½% 2003	162		3.59	3.93
118	107	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	108		3.62	3.94
184	165	Treas IL 2% 2006	168		3.67	3.92
168	149	Treas IL 2½% 2009	152		3.72	3.94
179	154	Treas IL 2½% 2011	157		3.75	3.94
146	126	Treas IL 2½% 2013	129		3.77	3.94
157	134	Treas IL 2½% 2016	137		3.79	3.95
152	128	Treas IL 2½% 2020	132		3.81	3.95
129	106	Treas IL 2½% 2024	109		3.80	3.93
128	105	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	108		3.83	3.96





THEATRE page 36
Commanding Broadway star Judd Hirsch brings Conversations With My Father to the West End

ARTS

MUSEUMS page 37
Architecture takes off into the 21st century in two dazzling new galleries in Holland



Join Dottie for a moving picture

CINEMA: **Geoff Brown** applauds as men make passes at a woman in glasses in *Mrs Parker and the Vicious Circle*



"Jennifer Jason Leigh never runs from Parker's contradictions, and makes the pain hurt" in *Mrs Parker and the Vicious Circle*

The title was to have been *Mrs Parker and the Round Table*. Then the men in suits became nervous. Maybe audiences would expect Lancelot, Guinevere and the Holy Grail, not Dorothy Parker, Alexander Woollcott and bathtub gin. So a substitute sobriquet was dug up from history, and we are now reviewing **Mrs Parker and the Vicious Circle**.

The incident shows one thing. Parker apart, the sophisticates who launched a thousand quips as they munched and drank at the Hotel Algonquin's Round Table in New York have not stayed celebrities 70 years on. But they and their age still exert a spell, and it was natural that Alan Rudolph should succumb. Seven years ago, he directed *The Moderns*, about expatriate Americans in the Paris of the 1920s. This is a companion piece, flawed but lovely, infinitely witty, and one with an aching heart.

For the wit and the heart one must thank Mrs Parker, or at least the fractured image that the film presents. We are not told the whole story: where is the woman who turned sharply to the left, and bequeathed her estate to Martin Luther King Jr? But Rudolph and his gifted star Jennifer Jason Leigh capture all the pain behind the wisecracks, the acid poems, the imbibing, the frantic sex.

In the film's eyes, her most stable, because it was unconsummated, relationship was with Robert Benchley, the droll humorist so beautifully played by Campbell Scott. This might be more fiction than fact, but their tender regard for each other strengthens the film's sense of lives gone astray, of missed chances.

Rudolph's characters, whatever their pedigree, are usually searching for love. This trait, plus the script's mosaic structure, the gliding camera and the melancholy jazz music of Mark Isham, ensures that *Mrs Parker* is no conventional movie biography.

But aspects of the genre still poke through. Names are dropped noisily: look, there's Scott Fitzgerald, and that must be Harpo Marx, chasing ladies on a Long Island lawn. Following tradition, the script piles on the heroine's agony: the later Parker (seen in harsh black-and-white) is only glimpsed as an old lush with a dog.

Imperfect though it may be, the portrait still has resonance. Leigh gives a powerful, multi-layered performance: she never runs from Parker's contradictions, and makes the pain hurt. The mannered drawl is overdone, but a re-jigged soundtrack has hugely improved her audibility since the film's Cannes debut last year. As the script contains most of Parker's best one-liners, you scarcely want to sit with ears cupped, shouting "Eh?"

At the beginning of **Disclosure**, Michael Douglas engages in man chat, eyes female legs ascending the stairs, and gives his secretary's behind a playful whack: par for the course in his male-dominated computer corporation, on the brink of a profitable merger.

But when Douglas meets Demi Moore, an old flame and his new division vice-president, the boot shifts to the other foot. Squeezed into a provocative black dress, she hurls herself at him, a sexual tornado, ripping off clothes, scratching his chest. Douglas says no, not once but 31 times. The next day, the boot is shifted again: the vengeful Moore now accuses Douglas of sexual harassment. Lawyers are summoned, and the merger threatens to unravel.

With a plot like that, no wonder the film rights to Michael Crichton's novel were snapped up long before publication. But, despite the weight of the seduction scene, and the casting of stars not known for their cloistered lives, sex never rules the roost alone. Crichton, as always, is fascinated by technology, and the script comes stuffed with e-mail messages and the latest virtual reality games. It is fascinating to imagine what Milos Forman, the original director, might have made of this. Barry Levinson, his eventual replacement, gives the material an impersonal big-budget polish: he needed a commercial hit following two quirky flops, *Toys* and *Jimmy Hollywood*. But he never brings the script's two worlds, sex and technology, into a natural embrace. Indeed, the more you ponder its elements, the more the film disintegrates.

Stare hard and the characters — Moore's especially — lose credibility. Time is wasted chasing red herrings. And although he has battled predatory women before, it is hard to believe Douglas would ever say no 31 times. The solution, obviously, is not to ponder at all. Pocket your brain. Go with the flow, and enjoy what you can of a corporate business melodrama decked with eye-catching trappings.

Oscar voters love to see actors acting, expressing mental or physical handicaps. Jodie Foster, therefore, must be polishing her acceptance speech for her role in **Nell**. Reared in isolation in North Carolina's backwoods, and left alone on her mother's death, she speaks a private, Bible-drenched language of slurred words and dropped consonants. Brought face to face with Liam Neeson, a local doctor, she flaps like a frightened bird. Time brings mutual understanding, and the wild child soon tells civilisation a thing or two about human values.

Foster and Neeson give strong, committed performances; and important lessons about emotional vulnerability snake through William Nicholson's script (based on Mark Handley's play). But these powerful ingredients become diluted. Nature's wonders are thrust in our faces; serious thoughts emerge sounding trite. Michael Apted directs with sympathy, but as the slick plot-turns mount no amount of cinematic honey can make *Nell* easy to swallow.

Better by far to sink yourself into **The Silences of the Palace**, a compelling debut film by Moufida Tlatli, born in Tunisia and trained in Paris. For her story she returns to the declining days of Tunisia's last royal family, seen through the eyes of a servant girl with the courage to resist her bondage.

The pace, at first, may seem slow: Tlatli spends much time absorbing the atmosphere in the palace kitchens as the staff prepare food, and the faded splendours of the private quarters where the princes take their pleasures. But the film soon draws us into its world, and the plight of the heroine Alia (persuasively played as an adolescent by Hend Sabri), who suspects her father is the ruling Bey himself.

"You have a beautiful voice," she is told. "It's a pity it's locked up inside." In time Alia uses her musical gifts to preserve some independence. But a happy private life eludes her; and around her lie the silent women, the princes' playthings, subject to rape and abortion.

Tlatli directs with unforced eloquence; and the rage within the film at women's role in Islamic society appears all the more powerful for being so contained.

Sirens wail. The streets are wet, soaked with blue light. The dialogue is terse: "Don't push your luck, scumbag." Luckily, all of **I Love a Man in Uniform** is not like this: that style is reserved for the crass television show, *Crime Wave*, in which the hero, a meticulous bank clerk and part-time actor, finds a role as an ass-busting cop.

More than a role: an identity. He takes his uniform home. Out on the streets in black leather, he finds the power life otherwise denies him. Ahead lie mental instability, considerable bloodshed and not much of an ending. But on the way, Canadian writer-director David Wellington plays clever games with our fascination with TV violence, and sneaks plenty of dark humour into the edgy scenes. Stage actor Tom McCamus is riveting as the bank clerk led off the rails by his lust for order. No masterpiece, this, but a striking film with a tart disposition and a mind of its own.

Mrs Parker and the Vicious Circle
Curzon Mayfair, 15, 123 mins
Moody and witty portrait of Dorothy Parker

Disclosure
Warner West End
18, 128 mins
Michael Douglas says no to Demi Moore

Nell
Odeon West End, 12, 114 mins
Jodie Foster gears up for an Oscar

The Silences of the Palace
ICA Cinema, 127 mins
Brave and compelling Tunisian film

I Love a Man in Uniform
Metro, 18, 97 mins
Cop show actor loses grip on reality

CONCERT

Musical chairs

AN EARLY String Quartet by Sibelius, written in his last year as a student, was presumably the intended focus of interest for a programme presented by the UK Sibelius Society. Announced as a UK premiere, it was diligently commended to our attention by the youthful Kreutzer Quartet.

They sit with the cellist between the second violin and viola instead of outside both, thereby masking some of the infilling between high and low registers, but the first and second violins are sufficiently versatile to exchange places for the second part of the programme.

Kreutzer Quartet
Wigmore Hall

Limpid violin playing was indeed a feature in Sibelius, whose A minor Quartet of 1889 benefited from a degree of toughness in ensemble to ween it away from its reminiscences of Grieg and Dvořák, even if it did threaten to canter into insignificance before the end of the last movement.

Taut ensemble playing was again a strong element in the fourth of the six quartets so far by David Matthews, 52 this year, who has been described elsewhere as a "natural" quartet composer and has endowed the form with a variety of skilled invention.

Quartet No 4, a 30-minute work of substance like the Sibelius, is perhaps his most expansive in the series, owing an allegiance to classical models in its four movements and warm tonality.

From a genial beginning, to which pizzicato phrases gave a sharper edge, the Kreutzer players steadily exposed the manifold felicities of Matthews's string writing, the muted instruments blending a touchingly withdrawn quality to the meditative slow movement, until a finely judged *accelerando* recalled all the earlier ideas to be "sped through as if in a dream", as the composer's programme-note put it. It was a lovely passage, followed by a vigorously dramatic finale.

After two such major works there was still nearly another hour of music to come as the players returned, with the violinists changed about, for Beethoven at his most demanding in the C sharp minor Quartet, Op 131. Their probing of its mysteries was evidently thoughtfully prepared, and executed with a rhythmic poise and explicit spirit that testified to these musicians' developing maturity.

NOEL GOODWIN

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Costello takes true aim at Purcell

The first of the Purcell Room's concerts of works inspired by its namesake reveals an unlikely hero

We had to wait until the end, of course, for Elvis Costello. He and 11 other musicians had been commissioned by the South Bank Centre to create works inspired by Purcell's viol *Fantasies*.

In the first of two concerts at the Purcell Room which interleave these new works with Purcell's own, most of the six composers showed themselves to be either deaf to that inspiration or dumb in their attempts to respond to it.

Costello describes himself as a new convert to the notated form. But his piece, entitled *Put Away Forbidden Placings* and scored for countertenor (Michael Chance) and four viols (members of Fretwork), showed a disarmingly sensitive and confident command of both voice and viol.

He had done his homework, too, and his nostalgic echoes of Purcell echoing Dowland echoing Byrd were skilfully and affectionately assimilated into a compact, bluesy, Janus-faced lovesong.

Nostalgia was very much the order of the day. Perhaps this was deliberately so, for Purcell himself was writing in an already outdated medium; but perhaps, one began to suspect, for want of any other response.

Double-bass player Barry Guy's *Buzz* for five viols was clearly the work of a practitioner, and one of the great original crossovers at that. Exploiting every technical possibility of the viol (and a few near-impossibilities, Charles Mingus-style, as well), this was a winning little exercise in the good old avant-garde.

It seemed genuinely excited by its medium and by the challenge of the exercise, which is more than could be said for Poul Ruders's earnestly sweet-sour *Second Set of Changes* on an old Danish folk tune, or Alessandro Solbiati's effortful (and conducted) *Nameless Pod*, or even John Woolrich's calculatedly arid and fragmented *Fantazia*.

Fantasy, and the searching, daring invention of a Purcell was just what these pieces lacked. Elena Firsova's *Phantom* showed a glimmer of those qualities in what was an honestly written, nicely whimsical fusion of a brief Arioso idea with a sweet, small cadence of Purcell's own.

Benedict Mason chose to create a pretentious "installation", about "the sound of sound"; five players sitting motionless with their backs to the audience, and five minutes' worth of quiet synthesized resonance that we were instructed to take seriously.

Mason obviously takes himself extremely seriously, as was painfully evident in yet another half hour of round-table prattle which preceded the concert — most of it either inarticulate, incomprehensible or totally inaudible.

HILARY FINCH

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WHITELEYS 12.15, 3.15, 6.15, 9.15
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GATE 1.10 (not Sun), 4.00, 6.50 8.45 Late Fri 11.15
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LONDON

THE WINTER GUEST. Phyllida Law and Sian Thomas head Alan Rickman's sensitively directed cast in Sharman Macdonald's fine play about loss, survival and the perils and joys of life. Transferred from the West Yorkshire Playhouse.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404). Previews begin tonight, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. Opens March 14, 7pm, until Apr 15 ◪

CHRISTINE BREWER The American soprano who created a sensation in last year's concert performance of Euryanthe returns for her first London recital. A change of programme from the originally publicised Susan Graham recital.
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141). Tonight, 7.30pm ◪

MUSIC AT THE SOUTH BANK. Felicity Lott joins Simon Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra this week for another programme in the Towards the Millennium series. Tonight's peformance (Festival Hall) moves away from the war, featuring Copland's Appalachian Spring, the closing scene from Strauss's Capriccio and Vaughan Williams's Symphony No 5. Over in the Purcell Room, the Nash Ensemble opens its own 20th-century music series with London premieres for three works plus pieces from Michael Tippett and Simon Holt.
Festival Hall and Purcell Room, South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 8800). Both at 7.30pm ◪ RFH only

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

ELSEWHERE

BELFAST: Opera Northern Ireland presents Donizetti's light-hearted confection L'Elisir d'amore this week as part of its spring season. Richard Coxon is the lovestruck Nemorino and Mary Hegarty is Adina, the object of his affections. Kenneth Montgomery conducts. Sean Rafferty hosts a gala concert of favourite works tomorrow, with the Ulster Orchestra and Opera Northern Ireland.
Grand Opera House, Great Victoria Street (0232 241919). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm. ◪

GLASGOW: Giles Havergal adapts and directs Jeff Torrington's novel, Swing Hammer Swing!, set in the Gorbals on the eve of its destruction in the 1960s.
Citizens, Gorbals, (041-429 0022). Free preview tonight, 7.30pm. Opens tomorrow, until Apr 1. ◪
Also in Glasgow tonight, Martyn Brabbins conducts the world premiere of William Sweeney's commissioned work for the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, The Woods of Raasay. Shostakovich's Symphony No 5 closes the programme, as part of the Cutting Edge series (City Hall). If you are still in need of inspiration, do see what may be a new classic in the making, Scottish Ballet's Swan Lake, with designs by Jasper Conran.
City Hall, Candleriggs (227 5511), tonight, 7.30pm. Theatre Royal, Hope Street ◪ (332 9000), tonight, 7.30pm, until Mar 18.

LEICESTER: Theatre de Complicite takes The Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol back on tour after a brief season in the West End. An award-winning performance from Lilo Baur in Simon McBurney's production on the loves and anguish of peasant life.
Haymarket, Belgrave Gate (01533 539797). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3pm ◪

SOUTHAMPTON: First night of previews for C P Taylor's And a Nightingale Sang, recapturing the many mood swings of the Second World War to the exuberance of VE Day.
Nuffield, University Road (01703 671771). Tonight, 7.30pm; opens March 14, 7pm. Then Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm; Fri and Sat, 8pm, mat Apr 1, 2.30pm ◪

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Impressionism in Britain (0171-638 4141) ... British Museum: Mexican Gallery (0171-636 1555) ... Hayward: Yves Klein (071-928 3144) ... National Gallery: The Age of Elegance (0171-839 3321) ... National Portrait Gallery: The Road from 1945 (0171-306 0055) ... Royal Academy: Nicolas Poussin (0171-439 7438) ... Serpentine: Man Ray, final week (0171-402 6075) ... Tate: New Displays 1995 (0171-887 8000) ... V & A: Warworks: Women Photographers (938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

◪ AIN'T MISBEHAVIN': The hit Fats Waller musical show comes into the West End, packed with tuneful numbers and dancing energy. A transfer from the Tricycle.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045). Now previewing, 8pm. Opens Mar 13

□ BROKEN GLASS: Arthur Miller's masterly drama, distilling his lifelong concern with personal responsibility. David Thacker's production, with Henry Goodman and Margot Leicester superb as the central Jewish couple.
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm ◪

□ THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE: Nigel Hawthorne plays the dilapidated Lord Ogleby and directs a strong cast in this good-hearted comedy about 18th-century greed, snobbery and true love.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5041). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Final week.

■ HAMLET: Ralph Fiennes' physically charismatic Prince gives a well-thought and stimulating performance, up to a point.
Hackney Empire, Mare Street, E8 (0171-312 1995). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Sold out for rest of run, to Mar 25

□ IN PRAISE OF LOVE: Peter Bowles and Lisa Harrow in Rattigan drama about being very brave when facing death. Richard Olivier directs.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Now previewing, 8pm. Opens March 6

◪ INDIAN INK: Felicity Kendal, Art Malik and Margaret Tyzack in Tom Stoppard's latest, wittily, poignantly, exploring aspects of Anglo-Indian resentments and respect.
Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ KILLER JOE: Utterly absorbing shock-drama by Tracy Letts where a trash-trailer family virtually annihilates itself by employing a hit-man to kill their unwanted Mom. Wilson Milam directs the original Chicago production.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

□ THE LIVE BED SHOW: Caroline Quentin and Paul Merton play a couple on their journey towards sharing a bed in Arthur Smith's comedy.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri and Sat, 6.30pm and 8.45pm

□ OUT OF A HOUSE WALKED A MAN: Theatre de Complicite breathes life into the mysterious tales of Daniil Kharms. The best is the corpse (Kathryn Hunter) who won't agree to be buried.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Today, 2.15 and 7.30pm ◪

◪ PEACE IN OUR TIME: Rare revival of Coward's 1946 drama, imagining a Britain conquered by the Nazis. Wyn Jones directs the 30-strong cast in the Touring Partnership's production.
Richmond, The Green, Richmond (0181-940 0088). Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm, mats today and Sat, 2.30pm. ◪

□ UGANDA: Judith Johnson's new play, again directed by Polly Teale, tracing the friendship that grows between a grieving widower and his daughter's Asian boyfriend.
Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 2554). Previews begin tonight, 7.45pm. Opens March 14, 7pm

◪ THE VENETIAN TWINS: Michael Bogdanov's knockabout production loses some of Goldoni's comedy. David Troughton plays both twins; Ranjit Bolt translates. Final performances.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Today, 2pm and 7.15pm ◪

◪ ZORRO — THE MUSICAL: The masked swashbuckler rights wrongs, defies gravity and gives the audience a great time in a typically rumbustious Ken Hill show.
Theatre Royal, Gerry Raffles Square, Stratford, E15 (0181-534 0310). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Mar 11 and 18, 3pm. ◪

LONG RUNNERS

□ Arcadia: Haymarket (0171-930 8800) ... ◪ Buddy: Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) ... ◪ Cats: New London (0171-405 0072) ... □ Crazy for You: Prince Edward (0171-734 8951) ... ◪ Grease: Dominion (0171-416 6060) ... ◪ Miss Saigon: Theatre Royal (0171-494 5400) ... ■ Oliver!: Palladium (0171-494 5020) ... ◪ A Passionate Woman: Comedy (0171-369 1731) ... □ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (0171-828 8665) ... ■ Three Tall Women: Wyndhams (0171-369 1736)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

NEW RELEASES

◆ PRET-A-PORTER (15): Surprisingly feeble satire on the fashion world from Robert Altman. With Kim Basinger, Sophia Loren, Marcello Mastroianni, Stephen Rea and many others.
Electric ◪ (0171-792 2020) MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) Odeons: Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) West End (01426 915574) UCI Whiteleys ◪ (0171-792 3332)

LES ROSEAUX SAUVAGES (15): Sensitive drama about French provincial adolescents during the Algerian War, a childhood reminiscence from director André Téchiné.
MGM Panton Street (071-930 0631)

CURRENT

AMATEUR (15): Amnesiac pornographer faces his past with a former nun's help. Quirky, touching, pseudo-thriller from Hal Hartley, with Martin Donovan and Isabelle Huppert.
MGM Haymarket (0171-839 1527) Minema (0171-235 4225) Renoir (0171-837 8402)

HEAVENLY CREATURES (18): Strange, fatal friendship of two New Zealand teenagers. Compelling, imaginative true-life drama from director Peter Jackson.
Lumiere (0171-836 0691) MGM Fulham Road ◪ (0171-370 2636) Phoenix (0181-883 2233) Renoir (0171-837 8402) Richmond (0181-332 0030) Screen/Baker St (0171-935 2772)

◆ INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE (18): Tom Cruise shows Brad Pitt the vampire way of life. Dull, over-stuffed version of Anne Rice's book. Director, Neil Jordan.
MGMs: Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) UCI Whiteleys ◪ (0171-792 3332) Warner ◪ (0171-437 4343)

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

◆ LEON (18): Precious child shelters under a hitman's wing. Sleek, empty; shot in New York by French director Luc Besson.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) Shaftesbury Avenue (0171-836 6279) Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) Mezzanine ◪ (01426 915683) Swiss Cottage (01426 914098)

LIFT TO THE SCAFFOLD: Revival of Louis Malle's first film, an absorbing thriller about a murder that goes wrong. With Maurice Ronet, Jeanne Moreau and a Miles Davis jazz score.
Everyman ◪ (0171-435 1525)

◆ NATURAL BORN KILLERS (18): Warped lovers embark on a shocking rampage, with the media in pursuit. Wearisome excess from director Oliver Stone.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) Gate ◪ (0171-727 4043) MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) West End (01426 915574) Screen/Baker Street (0171-935 2772) UCI Whiteleys ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ ONLY YOU (PG): Marisa Tomei chases the man of her dreams through Italy. Lazy blend of comedy, romance and travelogue, with Robert Downey Jr. Director, Norman Jewison.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) Odeon Mezzanine ◪ (01426 915683) UCI Whiteleys ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ QUIZ SHOW (15): Director Robert Redford resurrects a TV scandal of the late 1950s. Fine performances (John Turturro, Ralph Fiennes, Paul Scofield), but not enough bite, or relevance.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) Odeons: Haymarket (01426 915353) Kensington (01426 914666) Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) Screen/Hill ◪ (0171-435 3366) UCI Whiteleys ◪ (0171-792 3332) Warner ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ THE RIVER WILD (12): Criminals imperil a family on their white water rafting holiday. Enjoyable action thriller, with Meryl Streep and Kevin Bacon.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) Empire ◪ (0800 888911) MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) Notting Hill Coronet ◪ (0171-727 6705) UCI Whiteleys ◪ (0171-792 3332)

SOLITAIRE FOR 2 (15): Body-language lecturer pursues archaeologist with ESP. Awkward comedy from Pig Farmer co-director Gary Sinyor. With Mark Frankel and Amanda Pays.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) Warner ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ STARGATE (PG): Galactic adventures of Kurt Russell and James Spader. Preposterous, derivative but fun, Roland Emmerich directs.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) Odeon Mezzanine ◪ (01426 915683) UCI Whiteleys ◪ (0171-792 3332) Warner ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ STAR TREK: GENERATIONS (PG): Talky but acceptable film debut for the stars of television's Star Trek: The Next Generation. David Carson directs.
Empire (0800 888911) MGM Baker Street (0171-935 9772) Fulham Road ◪ (0171-370 2636) Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) Plaza (0800 888997) UCI Whiteleys ◪ (0171-792 3332)

SUTURE: Hypnotic melodrama with avant-garde trimmings from new American film-makers Scott McGehee and David Siegel.
Metro (0171-437 0757)

THEATRE: Self-centred Americans; Simon Ward's rescue act; and family tensions on stage

Memory is made of more than this

Conversations With My Father
Old Vic

THIS is the second American play involving the impact on New York Jewry of anti-Semitic atrocities in Europe to have reached London in the last seven months; and it is unfortunate for its author that the other happens to be Arthur Miller's *Broken Glass*. How can Herb Gardner, who wrote *I'm Not Rappaport* and other pleasing diversions, compete with a dramatist of such moment? To borrow a metaphor from his play, it is a case of welterweight versus heavyweight, which even the world boxing authorities might consider a mismatch.

But is it fair to compare the two pieces at all? Actually, yes it is. It need not matter that the massacres occurring in Nazi-occupied Europe, and the offhanded reactions of the American press to some of the worst of them, are not Gardner's sole or main interest. Why should they be? What bothers me is that they are so obviously subordinate to the sort of narcissistic concerns we have seen again and again in modern American drama. They are part of the emotional furniture in another memory-play about growing up, becoming a man and, as the title indicates, coming to terms with Dad.

At least Dad, a first-generation American and a Lower East Side tavern-owner, provides a lively, robust role for the commanding Judd Hirsch. He is, as his son Charlie says, "tough but warm, blunt but wise", a feisty codger and amiable bully who can be relied on to come up with the goods whenever Gardner wants a sharp crack or jokey put-down. We see him in modes both plucky and cowardly. He can put a protection racketeer to flight, yet he changes his name from Eddie Goldstein to the ethnically safer Ed Ross while berating poor Charlie for playing truant from Hebrew class.

Eddie's view is that being a Jew has meant nothing but trouble for him and his kin. He takes a similarly utilitarian view of the divine, finally breaking off relations with God after his elder son Joey gives up a promising career in the ring and dies idealistically fighting Japan. Some 40 such years are wryly and sometimes touchingly observed by Michael Mears's Charlie, who ends up a successful writer in spite of his father's determination that he should become a lawyer. But his memories are lacking in depth, power and, thanks to wordy, self-indulgent writing, sometimes even fun.

Charlie makes millions with stories about a lovable eccentric called Izzy, who is clearly based on his father. The trouble is that Gardner is not a lot more ambitious as a writer himself, especially when he comes to his supporting characters. A sturdy young actor called Adam Levy brings impressive energy to Joey; Trevor Martin gives class and even a bit of weight to the lordly lodger who remains true to his Jewish origins; but Jane Bertish can do nothing with the badly underwritten role of Eddie's "wacky" wife, and some of those around her add little but intermittent audibility.

Couldn't Alan Ayckbourn, restaging the production he did in Scarborough last year, have persuaded his author to sharpen the script and his cast to amplify their voices? The one unit beyond reproach is the design department. Jan Bee Brown's bar-room set is a wonderful clutter of assorted Americana, more arresting than some of the events occurring in it.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

DONALD COOPER



Judd Hirsch and Adam Goldsmith in *Conversations With My Father*: simply narcissistic figures in another memory-play about growing up'

No escaping the flaws

Cell Mates
Albery

THE face of Stephen Fry still scowls through the bars on the front cover of the programme but whereas Rik Mayall, balefully glaring at us from the other half of the picture, looks as if he truly belongs in the composition — the shadow of a bar falls correctly across his temple, eye and cheek — Fry's image is out of scale and appears to have been added afterwards. The man himself famously subtracted himself from the production three days after the opening, but even in this publicity shot he isn't really there.

Simon Ward has taken over his role as George Blake, sentenced to 42 years for spying, sprung from Wormwood Scrubs by Sean Bourke and spirited away to Moscow concealed beneath the seat of a Dormobile. Ward's arrival accounts for this re-review, barely three weeks after the opening, but the thinly attended house suggests that he too, and Mayall with him, may not be there much longer.

Simon Gray's play is a weakly crafted piece of work that sets out to show the nature of the bond between two individuals who in normal circumstances would have paid not the slightest attention to one another: Bourke the Irish petty criminal, a waggish rogue with a taste for the hard stuff: Blake the Cambridge-educated traitor, a careful master of his emotions who finds betrayal a habit hard to break. Having persuaded Bourke to join him in Moscow, he virtually imprisons him in their apartment with scare stories of a KGB plot to kill him if he steps out of line.

This curious dependence on the man who helped him escape is a feature of extraordinary historic interest, but the quality of it just is not explored in the Blake that Gray has created. Ward looks piqued, bland, pompous and cunning, as and when the lines require him to, but the character has not been made interesting. Doubtless the real Blake was a copper-bottomed enigma, but we're talking about theatre here, and Gray (who also directs) gives the actor a bum role.

Bourke provides a showier part but it is also one that develops the character, and Mayall makes his Jack-the-lad antics, his terror at the prospect of death and his final contempt for an erstwhile friend the credible components of a real human being. But nothing either of them can do gives a sense of their easier enjoyable times together. Fry may detest critics, but his departure was a powerful act of criticism, though it would have been kinder to express it by leaving at the first script-reading.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Farmhouse friction

What I Did In The Holidays
Wolsey, Ipswich

THE West Country is the place from which Philip Osment got away, and yet goes back to in his plays. *The Dearly Beloved* (Hampstead, 1993) depicted a family reunion fraught with jealousies and the frustrations of small-town life. Osment's poignant new work, again presented by Mike Alfreds's Cambridge Theatre Company (co-produced with the Wolsey to tour then run at the Drill Hall), tackles the same themes: rivalries; backwater exasperation; the complexities of sexuality.

In *What I Did In The Holidays* we are in impoverished rural Devon, surrounded by fields. Nevertheless, we are caught up in inescapable tangles of aggression, love and possessiveness between brothers and sisters, adults and children: or, more precisely, between Morley — on the verge of puberty — and his older siblings, all stuck on their father's farm: their mother, who regularly walks out on them; and two hitchhikers, who get a foot in the door and stay.

It is looking slightly as if Sam Shepard has got hold of *Emmerdale Farm*. There is also a *soupçon* of *Jean de Florette* as Chris Crooks's hewn-faced, stringy father tussles with a blocked water pipe on the hill that rises out of Paul Dart's fragment of farmhouse.

However, Osment's drama proves fresh. It is funny and delicate even and as it delves painfully into suppressed attractions. The play works "issues" into engrossing relationships. While passions do burst out, the rawness and psychological shakiness is not splurged across the canvas. Osment pinpoints the switches between protectiveness and wounded spite, and the twists of power play. Morley, bound for grammar school, is bullied one minute then gets his own back the next, grassing on his seniors or goading his illiterate big brother.

Some characters could be developed further. Alfreds's production is still rough at the edges, with straggling scene changes and Jacqueline Tong hammering away at her lines as the mother. But the piece is already rich with splashes of humour and acute moments of physical intimacy.

Antony Taylor's Morley, lying in the grass with the newly-arrived Cathy (excellent Penny Layden), squirms with what might be childish hyperactivity or fledgling flirtatiousness. Later Morley and Cathy's co-traveller, Andy (threatening and vulnerable Fergus O'Donnell), hold on to each other with a passionate intensity and fierce innocence. *Telling Tales*, Osment's first one-man show, was about growing up gay in Devon. Even as he returns to associated material, he is coming to artistic maturity.

DIANE SAMUELS, acclaimed for *Kindertransport* at the Cockpit, has also come up with a new play concerned with children. The Steam Industry are staging **Watch Out For Mr Stalk** at the Finborough in Earls Court. Unfortunately, this four-hander, set in London Zoo and zigzagging between two couples (husband and infertile wife: mother and son), is schematic and unconvincing. Still, the Finborough's new writing season has time to pick up.

KATE BASSETT

CINEMAS

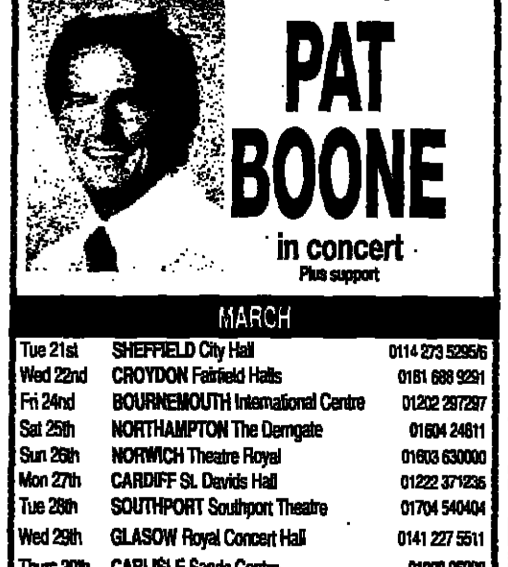
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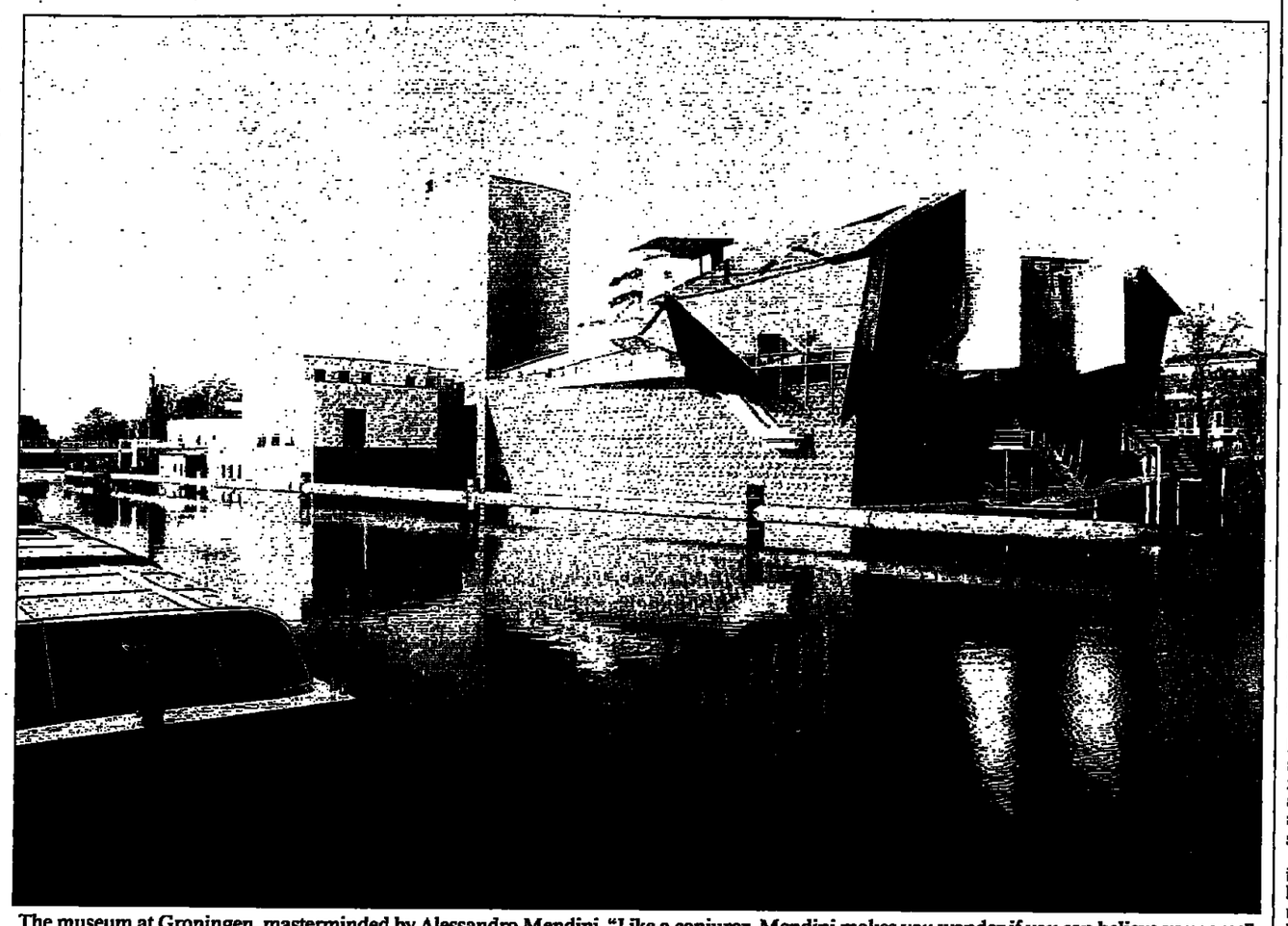
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هكذا من الأصل

Punk planners raise the roof

ARCHITECTURE: **Marcus Binney** detects a bold new spirit of invention in the design of two unorthodox but effective museums built in Holland



The museum at Groningen, masterminded by Alessandro Mendini. "Like a conjuror, Mendini makes you wonder.if you can believe your eyes"

Punk architecture has arrived. Holland's new art museum at Groningen provokes shock and even outrage at first sight, acting as a three dimensional V-sign to all architectural canons both traditional and modern. But inside the mood changes: the aim is no longer to disturb but to amaze and delight.

The Groninger Museum is masterminded by Alessandro Mendini, the mercurial artistic director of the watch company Swatch. It has beaten all forecasts by attracting 140,000 visitors in three months.

Unabashed folly it may be, but it is also welcome proof that just five years before the millennium, a fin-de-siècle spirit is emerging, equivalent to Art Nouveau architecture in the 1890s — irreverant, playful and a challenge to every conventional brand of taste. Like a first-class conjuror, Mendini makes you wonder if you can believe your eyes. What is all the more surprising is that it is largely funded by Dutch Gas.

The museum is a visual collision between the work of four designers, three others being brought in at Mendini's request. Co-op Himmelblau, famous for their space-age roof additions, look as if they crash-landed their contribution and simply left it to rust, while Mendini's external walls, though a play on pointillist paintwork, look like bathroom tiles of the ducks on the wall variety.

The city fathers demanded a central accessible site, and the only one available was in the middle of the canal opposite the railway station. So Mendini has set the new museum on three half-submerged artificial islands.

Once inside, you are aboard an ocean liner. You even descend a sweeping ballroom stair, which is clad in luminous blue swimming pool mosaics to emphasise the sub-aqua feel. Look out of the windows and the water is disconcertingly above the floor. In the recent floods it came within five centimetres of the window sills.

> "I want visitors to feel they have entered a different world"

Mendini's view is simple: "The 20th century is full of horrors. You have to use bright colours. I want visitors to feel they have entered a different world, and a pleasant one," he says. It is a modern-day version of Matisse's famous statement that art should be like a comfortable armchair.

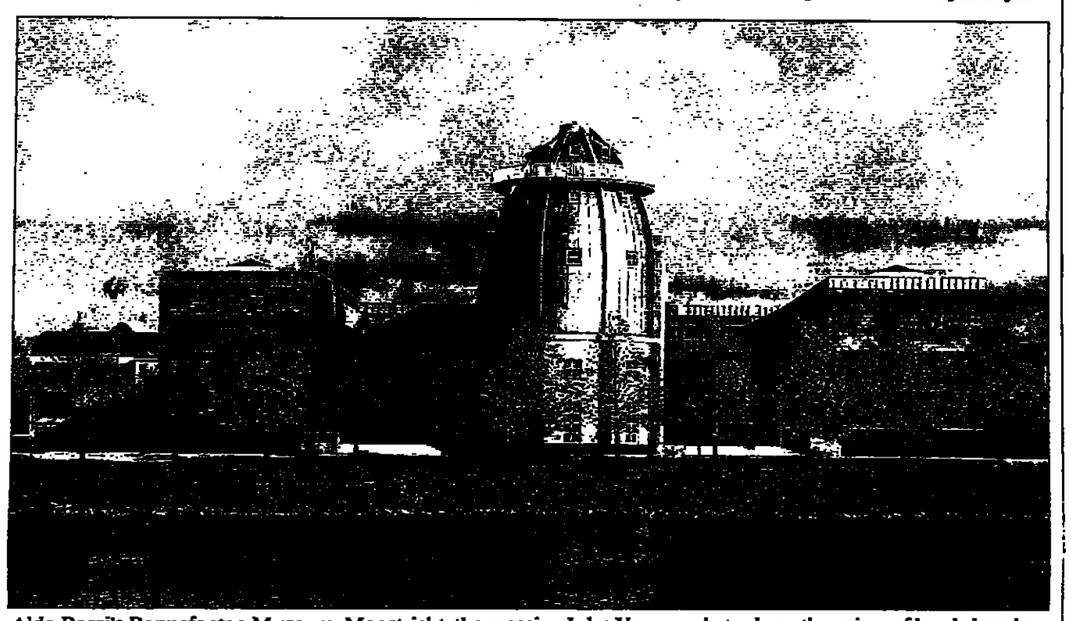
The historical galleries come first, with floors, walls and ceilings in a uniform terracotta brown. Initially the lights were so dim that visitors were stumbling, and even now you are hard-pressed to read the captions. This is despite a sci-fi forest of little shaving mirrors which artfully reflect the beams of spotlights onto individual objects. It is bizarre, but people appear happy to spend the time to take it in.

This Etruscan tomb is also the perfect foil for the ever-flamboyant Philippe Starck's superb installation of the oriental porcelain above. At first I thought I had strayed into the bridal department at Harrods or a set for the Dance of the Seven Veils — there are so many net curtains snaking across the room. Starck's showcases are surreal, fronted by a continuous series of glass doors, complete with Dali-style handles, ringing the room. He creates an effect like the endless reflections between two mirrors. Thanks to the floor-to-ceiling glass there is an abundance of space, and each object is individually lit to superb advantage.

The displays inside are a clever variant of the pyramid arrangement of blue-and-white china on 17th-century Dutch chimney pieces. In the floor is another conceit unexpected in the museum — a tank where exotic fish swim over broken blue-and-white porcelain retrieved from East Indies wrecks.

Controversy continues with the rooftop galleries for the Old Masters. Co-op Himmelblau's floors, walls and ceilings are all on the tilt. It looks like a shipwrecked car ferry complete with ill-fitting bow door. "I must have a free hand," said the designer Wolf Prix, after earlier proposals by the painter Frank Stella were abandoned because of cost. The budget may have been met but until this month it has been impossible to hang the pictures because of the humidity. Even so, the cacophony of squeaks and twangs produced by half a dozen people walking on the metal floors may make it as noisy as a mariner in a Force 8 gale.

Exhausted? You can continue in an elegant museum cafe seated comfortably on a selection of chairs by leading Eighties designers, a different set at each table. Even the cruets are by Alessi. (No, the customers don't walk out with them, I was told.)



Aldo Rossi's Bonnefanten Museum, Maastricht: the massive Jules Verne rocket echoes the spires of local churches

Newer still is the Bonnefanten Museum at Maastricht, which opens next week. This time they were not building in a canal and for the same price of 48 million guilders (£20m) they have a building more than twice as large. Once again, the museum chose an Italian architect, Aldo Rossi.

The director, Alexander van Grevensteyn, says: "Choosing an architect is like buying a painting. You have to make up your mind who you want. Working with Rossi has given us a vision of what paradise is like. Wherever we wanted a window we got one. He's also one of the few architects who reads books, so discussion is on a poetic level."

He continues: "Also important for us Dutch, he's rather cheap. For the finished product we haven't paid much more than for a basic shell."

Outside, Rossi's one flourish is a huge tower, a massive, slightly squat Jules Verne rocket. Rossi wanted to echo the spires of the town's churches, without any religious overtones.

Inside, a series of monumental elements add a magical touch to the whole building. Stand in the centre of the entrance hall and you are inside a giant telescope, tapering floor by floor to an occulus in the roof. Next comes a stupendous staircase, appearing to rise the full height of the building in a single straight flight. The materials are not marble or stone but bare brick walls and plain wooden steps.

"The wood is Indonesian but from renewable plantations, not the rainforest. It's the cheapest you can buy, and they could not believe why we wanted it," says the director.

Upstairs the contemporary art collection has an emphasis on big and bold. The policy is to buy several works from a small collection of artists, so that visitors can more fully appreciate their ideas.

Nearby, Rossi insisted on the preservation of an early concrete factory. You only fully understand why when you see the remarkable arching concrete roof inside. Not wishing to go to the expense of climatic controls, the museum gave each floor to an artist for an experimental installation. One is the world's least portable modern sculpture — a series of giant blocks of steel weighing a total of 144 tons. You puzzle at what they mean until suddenly, at the end, they all line up, as neatly placed as the rocks in a Japanese Zen garden.

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RADIO REVIEW

Views of Bodmin Moor

THERE is something about a long, late-night drive in the cocoon of the modern motor car that lends itself to sampling every kind of radio, from the sublime to the cor blimey, leading to conclusions that mostly comfort the soul.

For all that the main media agenda rightly focuses on national and supra-national issues, from the dreaded EU to the alleged rise in lawlessness, put the car in fifth and the mind in neutral and you will get a picture of England that is quite different and in its way quite splendid.

Take a spin, for example, along the 100 miles of the A30 between Penzance and Exeter of a Saturday night. Hit the search button and you will eventually alight on BBC Radio Cornwall, a man-and-dog operation which perfectly illustrates why regions matter and how matters regional can weave themselves into national concerns.

That became apparent in a lively and informed phone-in about veal calf exports, a matter affecting the bank balances of Cornish farmers as acutely as it affects the consciences of urban protestors.

Not that the one is necessarily more valid than the other, but only this kind of local radio gets to the guts of such issues: a man in a suit from the National Farmers' Union on Radio 4 is one thing, a man in a pair of boots telephoning from Bodmin Moor is another.

How many of the people listening to the veal debate only on national radio have understood that the extreme wing of the animal rights lobby would mean no calves and therefore no milk, for cows lactate to feed their young, not to feed us.

I WILL not pretend that local radio is always so relevant, and I was struggling to keep my head upright through an interminable interview with the manager of the Cornwall football team as to whether last Saturday's match should or should not have been called off because of the weather.

It is a characteristic of local radio, apparent as the miles rolled by on Radio Devon and Orchard FM in Somerset, that it sometimes suffers from a lack of the ruthless editing that gives rhythm and pace to national outlets.

Indeed, one of the principal disabling factors about Talk Radio UK is that it is local radio writ large, and the mind-set of listeners is different when tuned to the one rather than the other. But they are not a different set of listeners, at least not for the most part.

Local radio's health and growth says much about the nation. What it says is that we are mostly people of the community in which we live, and that we take some comfort in being able to access that community via local radio.

To suggest that such stations thrive only because of traffic reports and detailed weather forecasts is a dangerous misunderstanding.

PETER BARNARD

DANCE: A hackneyed exploration of questions of sexual identity

Boys will be girls, as ever

Motionhouse
The Place

DANCE-makers — especially in the contemporary branch of the art — seem desperate to convince us that they do not have air between their ears. They read avidly, they cram their pieces with themes, favourite among which is the politically correct one of sexual identity and gender-bending.

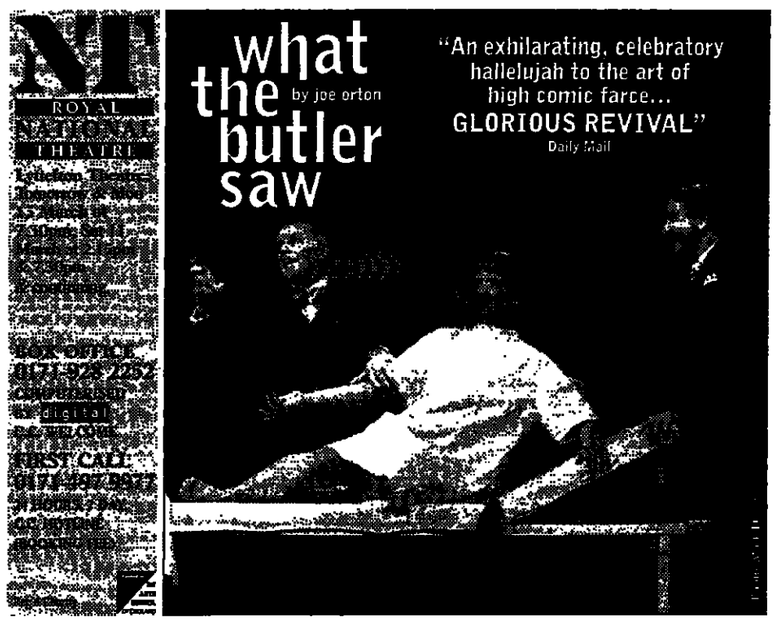
It pops out of the choreographic subconscious with such irrepressible regularity that it has become a cliché: a fact that has unfortunately escaped the Midlands-based company Motionhouse with its latest touring piece *Geisha*, which stopped off at The Place Theatre's Spring Loaded festival. The eponymous Geisha, icon of sexual indoctrination and role-playing, seems to have been lost on the way, moreover, although she must have figured somewhere along the creative production-line before being pushed off.

Instead, we were confronted by a giant white refrigerator and couch (courtesy of Simon Dormon) around which circulated six distinctly western dancers. The prologue's joined-up male/female duo, expanding and distorting into drunken, bulging shapes, does say something about sexual identity being secondary to our core humanity. An episode about "lonely hearts" making telephone contact does illustrate our aching desire to attract and please, the underlying message emphasised by a voice-over on Alain Baumann's effecient tape of synthesized sound and percussion.

But otherwise Kevin Finnan and Louise Richards's conception gets no further than what might be a transsexuals' annual symposium. Feminine chins grow beards, beefy pectorals wriggle into girlie dresses, but wider and deeper issues remain unexplored or obscure.

The choreography concentrates on dynamics rather than line, so that much energy is expended to little visual effect. By far the best comes in the duet, where grappling holds, flying lifts and interlocking contours transform the dancers into exciting and inventive wrestlers.

NADINE MEISNER



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Nicholas Henderson lauds a magisterial history of the United Nations and a racy account of its impact on an inhospitable world

Global policeman or dinosaur?

UTOPIA LOST
The United Nations and World Order
By Rosemary Righter
The Twentieth Century Fund Press, £19.50

FROM COLD WAR TO HOT PEACE
UN Interventions 1947-1994
By Anthony Parsons
Michael Joseph, £16.99

THE NEW Republican leaders in Congress are celebrating the 50th birthday of the United Nations this year by calling for a major reduction in American participation. In the view of the Secretaries of State and of Defence, this would cripple UN peacekeeping and stultify effective American leadership abroad. The UN is not, therefore, so much at a watershed, as Rosemary Righter describes it in *Utopia Lost*, her magisterial survey of the history and functioning of the UN, as on the edge of an abyss.

What are the reasons for the rejection by the Republicans of the main plank of US foreign policy for the last 50 years? How far does the disillusion extend beyond the US? To what extent is it justified, and what should be done about it? These are the international questions of the hour that render so pertinent both Rosemary Righter's work and a sprightly account of UN interventions, also published to mark the organisation's 50th anniversary, by Anthony Parsons, the former British Ambassador to the UN. Both books were, of course, written before the latest American onslaught.

As Righter points out, the UN has always had "a mercurial history in public and private esteem". High at the time of the Korean War, and described by Eisenhower as "the moral conscience of mankind", the UN was at a nadir of American popularity in the 1980s when it was the grandstand for anti-Western abuse and when the Reagan Administration withheld dues to it in order to exert pressure for reform. It was variously condemned as an "unmanageable" institution or like a "prehistoric monster" or "reminiscent of the dark ages". Then, with the veto-free response to Saddam Hussein, the barometer soared again, only to plummet after the UN's shaky role in Somalia and the Balkans.

On the face of it, there is something irrational in the present severe Republican attack on UN peacekeeping. The expected annual cost of this to the Americans is about $1 billion or *only 0.3 per cent of the US defence* budget. Besides, the Gulf War, in which the US, with the authority of the UN, led a 28-nation military coalition, accorded them much international glory and did not cost them a cent since they managed to get the Arabs to pay for it. It is possible that the Republican leaders may be reflecting, not just a reaction to the present malaise of the UN, but a recessive isolationist gene of their compatriots.



Nevertheless, Parsons believes *that, to assuage American opinion,* there will have to be a change in the contributions to the annual peacekeeping budget, and that some of the richer per capita countries should pay more than they do now. It can be surmised that, as a result of American cheese-paring, the Germans and Japanese will be asked to increase their contribution, in which event they will surely insist on a permanent seat in the Security Council as part of the deal.

Parsons, the least conventional of diplomats, has a style that is as racy in print as were his interventions in the Security Council. He can make the institution of the UN interesting having taken a direct part in much of its history which he describes in terms of the personalities involved, including the most awful. Created by the wartime alliance to prevent a third world war, the UN, particularly the Security Council, has nevertheless been preoccupied since the start with conflicts arising from *decolonisation — and this may* well continue to be so since the collapse of the Soviet Empire.

In theory the UN is precluded by Article 2 (7) of the Charter from interfering in the domestic affairs of states. But Parsons suggests that this hands-off policy is difficult to maintain in the light of the Charter's concern for human rights and when evidence of the denial of these rights or of civic disaster is shown worldwide on television screens. Hence the intervention to save the Kurds in Iraq in 1991 which Righter singles out as the "first time the Security Council recognised that common humanity might occasionally take precedence over the doctrine of non-intervention". She sees the most fundamental debate about the future of the UN to lie in its role in protecting human rights.

The faults of the UN have not, in Parsons's view, been caused by the Cold War. The organisation has done too little to prevent trouble, and became overinvolved and *confused in trying to cure it since* "an unfortunate habit has developed of combining Chapter VI (mediation and peacekeeping with the consent of the parties) with Chapter VII (mandatory sanctions and the use of force)".

Righter has concentrated less on high-profile peacekeeping than on the economic and social side of the UN. While recognising the need for a shake-up of some 30 Specialised Agencies and more than 100 separate UN bodies, she favours "selective section" rather than "structural reform", even if historical experience makes her sceptical of the outcome.

Her book is not an easy read, but it is balanced and thorough: an incomparable work of reference. It also raises far-reaching questions about the UN's relevance to the modern world.

She does not think that it is the only component of a "new world order". The world is no longer one of nation-states in which domestic and international affairs can be neatly compartmentalised as it was for the drafters of the UN Charter. Finance and industry are operated nowadays regardless of frontiers. The information superhighway must surely affect the way the UN is conducted. There is much sober truth in her conclusion: "Younger generations have diminished expectations for the power of governments to organise their lives and are considerably more sceptical about the desirability of their doing so . . . It would be mistaken to assume that the global agenda of a 'new world order' necessarily requires global initiatives, international bureaucracies, or the guiding hand of the State."

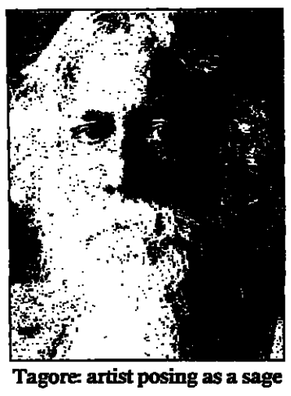
The wisest fool in Calcutta

P.N. Furbank

RABINDRANATH TAGORE
The Myriad-Minded Man
By Krishna Dutta and Andrew Robinson
Bloomsbury, £25

The title which Mary Lago chose for her book about Tagore and William Rothenstein, published 20 years or so ago, was *Imperfect Encounter*. This new biography of Tagore confirms the aptness of her title. At the age of 51, Tagore came to England, bearing a notebook filled with his translations of his own poems. The ensuing train of events is inexhaustibly suggestive, whether as a piece of social and literary history or as a wry fable.

Tagore, by this time in his career, enjoyed a distinguished literary reputation in Bengal. But then, he belonged to a very distinguished family. His grandfather Dwarkanath, the "Oriental Croesus", was entertained by Queen Victoria and was an object of fascination to Dickens. His father Debendranath was leader of the Hindu religious reform movement; and the latter's eldest brother, Jyotirindranath, wrote operas and translated Molière and Maupassant into Bengali. Thus when, in January 1911, the painter William Rothenstein visited the voluble Tagore household in Calcutta, he did not even gather



Tagore: artist posing as a sage

that the charming but silent uncle in the corner was a celebrity.

Rothenstein and Rabindranath were, however, much taken with each other. They corresponded warmly after Rothenstein returned home; and when, in May of the following year, Rabinadranath decided to come to England, it was Rothenstein who found him lodgings in Hampstead, introduced him to literary figures, and showed the manuscript he had brought with him to Sturge Moore and to Yeats. The effect on Yeats, both of the poems and of this impressive-looking man, was electrifying, and it was equally so on Ezra Pound, to whom he introduced him.

Within a few months his poems, titled *Gitanjali* ("Song Offerings"), had appeared in an edition published by the India Society, with a rapturous introduction by Yeats, and their *réclame* was increased by a review by Pound in the *Fortnightly*, likening Tagore to Dante. By the end of the next year the tide had risen so high in his favour, that he was awarded the Nobel Prize. It was, one cannot help thinking, a real disaster for him. Literary prizes are often disastrous, but this was more so than most.

For let us consider what, from a literary point of view, had actually happened. Tagore's poems were lyrics in the Vaishnavist tradition, celebrating the emotions of the heart in its yearnings towards Vishnu, and they were in a very intricate rhymed verse-form. Evidently, therefore, his efforts at an English translation, in a species of unrhymed prose poetry, did not bear much relation to their originals. The British reading public, however, being much addicted to Nietzsche's *Zarathrustra* and Edward Carpenter's *Towards Democracy*, was on good terms with gnomic prose poetry.

More important, these translations, belonging as they did to an indeterminate species, neither Bengali nor English, were ideal for appropriation. Yeats saw in them something he dearly wanted to believe in, and which was easier to believe in when Bengal, rather than Ireland, was in question: an "unbroken civilisation" with a "common mind" running through it, so that subtle poems might speak to the beggar in the road.

Likewise the translations gave the chameleonic Ezra Pound — though greatly to his credit he tried to work out the metre and rhyme-scheme of Tagore's originals — the idea of a new prose-poetry manner for himself, provoking him to produce some magnificent versions from the Hindi of the mystic Kabir. Yeats and he had, with genius, seen in Tagore's English translations what was not really there; and within a short while their enthusiasm dropped away, leaving Tagore chagrined and confused.

But what the prize had also fatally done was to convince him he was supposed to be a sage, that he must be India's voice to the world, as much as the Mahatma Gandhi. There thus began for him an endless series of wanderings from platform to platform, over the habitable globe, when he would speak of India (and of himself as its representative) as the crucible in which East and West should unite, engendering "universal man".

His was the brand of wishful, Romain-Rollandish rhetoric which caused Roquentin, in Sartre's *La Nausée*, to think with horror of humanism as capable of "digesting" all attitudes, turning them into the same sticky white paste. It became his chosen excuse for these lecture-tours that they were his "begging-bowl", on behalf of the university he had created at Shantiniketan. But not only was his academy always plunged in quarrels, scandals and near-bankruptcy; the "meeting of East and West" never seemed to flourish there, nor "universal man" to be born.

The irony in this goes deep. For what convinces the English-speaking reader that Tagore was, after all, a man of high talent, are his short stories and novellas; and the theme to which he keeps returning in these stories is precisely the danger of losing the individual in the universal. The tragic silences and broken marriages in these moving stories often spring from spiritual pride: from the feeling that everyday human feelings are too commonplace — too "prosaic", as the well-meaning hero of *The Broken Nest* puts it to himself — to have attention paid to them.

This biography of Tagore is judicious, sympathetic and exceedingly well documented, but is perhaps a trifle lenient to what one may unkindly call the nonsense side of his career. The authors use the words "myriad-minded" and "colossus" about him, but those do not seem right, and belong to the unreal role Europe thrust upon him. One can hardly claim that, in any serious sense, Tagore was a thinker at all. But, as well as a spoilt but engaging and life-enhancing man, he was a most appealing artist, who left behind him some stories which are fit to set beside Chekhov's.



Rajiv Gandhi's widow, Sonia, circles his burning funeral pyre in May 1991. Like his mother Indira, he was assassinated: unlike her, he had no obvious political heir

How India's dynasty governed its anarchy

Praveen Moman

RAJIV GANDHI and Rama's Kingdom
By Ved Mehta
Yale University Press, £14.95

RAJIV GANDHI and Rama's Kingdom is the third of Ved Mehta's slim volumes of political reflections on India since Independence. Their focus, not surprisingly, is the Nehru-Gandhi family. In this volume Mehta continues to unravel their many-layered and extraordinary influence.

Mehta, an accomplished author, captures with an acute outsider's eye and insider's knowledge, the high and low points of the charged period spanning the last years of the reign of the steely Indira. He then looks at the subsequent rise and death of her son, the film star-like Rajiv, who was anointed her successor as Prime Minister within hours of her assassination in 1984. His quick succession suggested that the "democratic monarchy" of the family was secure. In reality it only lasted until 1991.

The book comprises carefully composed analytical narratives, free from journalistic excess, based on articles which first appeared in *The New Yorker*. They capture the complex court intrigue at the heart of the modern Indian empire, the absurdity and high emotion that characterises the palimpsest that is India.

Mehta portrays the tough, manipulative machinations that helped Indira to consolidate and centralise her power, but also polarised the country. Ultimately, she resorted to the divide and rule policy that has been a hallmark of many previous rulers. This was seen in her approach to Punjab, where she actively encouraged a movement of Sikh extremists to counterbalance the Sikh moderates who had driven the Congress party from power in the province. Her elaborate chess games resulted in Punjabi turmoil dominating India for the next decade.

The Rajiv period, with its burst of new hope and subsequent letdown, is well encapsulated. Rajiv won even more votes than his mother and grandfather when first elected, but he was soon seen to be isolated and vacillating, intriguing with his coterie for his own ends. His economic reforms, however, while not removing the socialist framework, encouraged greater private enterprise and loosening of the "licensing raj", policies which have since borne fruit under the governments of his successors.

Mehta also weaves in colourful asides — from the influence of Hindu family etiquette in the friction between Indira and Maneka, her elder son Sanjay's widow, to the frustration of dealing with insolent Indian telephonists. The investigation into the Bofors scandal, which led to the erosion of Rajiv's power and the rise of other political forces, including the BJP, is sensitively discussed. Despite their attempts, the BJP and its ultranationalist supporters have not managed finally to destroy Nehru's cherished secularism and themselves appear to have sunk into the Indian mire.

Mehta rightly states that the ending of the great dynasty — for the moment at least — has left a serious hole in a country where hereditary connections are all. His implicit criticism of the family's role is also justified: although they gave a lot to the country, their influence was not always benign. Perhaps the truth is that Nehru, Indira and Rajiv were all weighed down, in their different ways, by a country that has never been easy to govern. In retrospect, Nehru's approach of ruling by gentle consensus, of coaxing along the country's many communities, in an upright and dignified way, was perhaps the most successful.

Despite all the instability chronicled by the author in the "functioning anarchy" that is India, Mehta is surprisingly optimistic about the future. He suggests that Hindu fatalism might be better suited to modern life than Christianity, Islam or Sikhism and that this might help it to cope with the current rapid change. He believes the country's growing middle classes will ensure that a strong united democratic India survives. Perhaps his predictions will be correct. Those who have to live through its upheavals might be less sanguine.

Where bodies are buried but spirits live

Julia Neuberger

LOVE'S WORK
By Gillian Rose
Chatto & Windus £9.99

I FOUND this fragment of autobiography by the philosopher and theologian Gillian Rose heart-rendingly beautiful. Her writing is spare and elegant, not what one would expect from someone who recounts painstakingly the problems of being dyslexic, and her anger, even now, at being told she has a "lazy eye", is apparent. Professor Rose does not, in this extraordinary book, tell the whole story of her life. We learn little of her childhood, except for the dyslexia, and her parents' marital break-up. Her mother divorced twice, once in Gillian's childhood, leading to weekends spent with her father and bad times with him when she changed her surname to her stepfather's instead of his.

The second time was later, when she was just beginning at Oxford. Having been awarded a scholarship, she got an unheated room in college, no doubt of comparative magnificence. But all the other rooms along the corridor, the rooms of lesser mortals, were heated. She was so miserable about the divorce, the collapse of her family, and so cold, that she could hardly bear to get up in the mornings. That particular symptom of depression is commonplace. But few undergraduates now will appreciate just how cold rooms in Oxbridge colleges were without heating, when one would go to bed wearing all one's clothes, with the bedside rug on the bed as well, and still shiver until one slept.

That was not the happiest of times, but her focus in this volume is on a series of friends who brought her happiness, friends of great variety. There is Jim, dying of an Aids-related disease in New York, whom she cherishes, and whose thinking she still values. When visiting him, she stayed with another friend, the indomitable Edna, over 90 and still working every day for Gary, yet another of Jim's friends.

At this stage the story seems to be getting too complicated, but only then do we get a flash of Gillian Rose's preoccupation with physical disability and the ways in which human beings can survive it to lead ordinary, pleasurable, valuable lives. For Gary has some disorder that renders his hands claw-like, his joints locked in tension, his smile a strange rictus.

And then there is Edna, whom the author grows to love for herself. She lost her nose through cancer, and now has an artificial one. She asks in a matter-of-fact way whether Gillian would mind if she did not put it on first thing in the morning. Gillian finds that she prefers the neat black hole to the bulbous artificiality that is the fake proboscis. The reader can almost see it in the mind's eye.

Nor are these the only accounts of physical deformity with which we are regaled in this book, regaled with an extraordinary sensitivity, allied to a down-to-earth approach to the bodily details that few of us can match in speech, let alone on paper. For she also tells the story of Yvette, Yvette of the many lovers and five children, whom she met through a colleague at Sussex University, and with whom she spent a great deal of time exchanging poems and writers and thinkers, until Yvette's death in the hospice. Again, the physical details are not spared us. Yvette delighted in showing everyone the original scar, and she spared Gillian no embarrassment in fondling her infant grandson's genitals, against all inhibitions and fears of abuse.

THIS IS a book about the body, but it is also about love and friendship and ideas. Gillian Rose is fierce in her argument, even cerebral; but she is also aware of herself as an emotional being, on whom she sometimes looks with surprise. Her intelligence shines through these accounts of friends, lovers and journeys (including one to Auschwitz as some kind of adviser to the Polish Government).

This slim volume, compelling throughout, ends as it begins, with herself. Her own story remains unfinished. To reveal the ending would spoil it for the reader, but the last pages disclose something of her philosophy of life and love, body and spirit. One puts her book down with a sigh, feeling that one has got to know her so well, and longing to meet her, to pursue the argument — be it about feminism, or Dante, or the nature of Jewish belief, or liberalism.

For Gillian Rose has a piercing intellect, and myriad ideas, ideas that need to be developed beyond this book into something longer and more fully argued. But even then, it could not be more satisfying than this short testimony of her life's, and love's, work.

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Untangling the Wizard's web of myth

Scott pretended to be the Inspector Clouseau of fiction. **Ian McIntyre** on a stylish new life

"I HAVE read all W. Scott's novels at least fifty times," Byron wrote in his journal in 1821. "Wonderful man! I long to get drunk with him." Such frivolity would not commend him to the grave editors of Blackwell's new Critical Biographies. "An underlying objective," we read, "is to re-establish the notion that books are written by people who lived in particular times and places." Fancy. Or, as Mrs Bertram says to her prosy old lawyer husband in *Guy Mannering*: "That sounds like nonsense, my dear."

THE LIFE OF WALTER SCOTT
A Critical Biography
By John Sutherland
Blackwell, £19.99

Happily, there is almost nothing that sounds like nonsense in John Sutherland's brisk and stylish narrative (though I'd like to hear him expand on why George Canning "represented the rotten core of conservatism"). The Wizard of the North has always presented a formidable biographical challenge, partly because of the immensity and diversity of his achievement, partly because, as with Burns, the life has become encrusted with legend. Sutherland applies the varnish stripper with a liberal brush.


Walter Scott: calculating

It is a bold man who, in his first chapter, asserts of Abbotsford that "even its name was an invention of the 'Dunroamin' variety". By the time he comes to describe the new introduction written for the "improved" edition of *Waverley* in 1829, he is even bolder: "As he tells it, Scott was the Inspector Clouseau of fiction. He blundered into greatness looking — surreally enough — for fishhooks." The text is brightened by several such cheerfully anachronous comparisons: Edward Waverley, swithering between his Jacobite and his Hanoverian predilections, is likened to Buster Keaton in the film *The General*.

Sutherland has a much beadier eye than either Lockhart or the generously indulgent Edgar Johnson for some of the darker passages in the Scott story. Did *The Lay of the Last Minstrel* plagiarise Coleridge? Scott certainly lifted whole phrases from the still unpublished *Christabel* — not to mention the irregular Pindaric measure in which it was written. How culpable was Scott in the downfall of John Ballantyre & Co. in 1813? And how sensible was it, 13 years later, to use accommodation bills to raise funds for non-commercial purposes? Sutherland declines to follow those who stress the "honourable" nature of the course Scott followed to extricate himself from the disastrous consequences of the 1826 crash.

This new *Life* questions Lockhart's reading of his father-in-law as an essentially modest and stoic man who awoke one day to find fame thrust upon him. Sutherland does not go as far as Eric Quayle, in his hostile 1968 study, in attributing Scott's financial ambitions to "innate greed": but he does discern beneath the benevolent mask a more calculating face. He also challenges the Lockhartian picture of Scott entering the 19th century as a model of Augustan equanimity — a sort of Scottish Addison.

Some of the best passages in the book are those which relate particular works to Scott's circumstances and mood at the time of composition. The *Minstrelsy*, for instance, was being assembled in the middle-late 1790s. Sutherland concedes that it may well paint a historically correct picture of Scottish Border life, but suggests it may also have been coloured by the invasion scares and general militaristic frenzy of those years — the author was, after all, the enthusiastic quartermaster of the Edinburgh Light Cavalry when it was mustered in 1797. Later, he notes that Scott's enthusiasm for things Highland grew with the progress of the Peninsular War and the battle triumphs of the Scottish regiments — this at the time he was thinking about *The Lady of the Lake*.

Sutherland has not devoted much space to the influence Scott came to exercise on 19th-century culture and literature. It was immense. In Europe Pushkin, Balzac and Manzoni all acknowledged their debts to him, and in the United States his appeal was greater than that of any other writer. In southern states jousting modelled on that described in *Ivanhoe* became a popular entertainment, and the German secret society described in *Anne of Geierstein* was the prototype for the Ku-Klux-Klan.

SUTHERLAND pays careful attention not only to the poetry and the novels, but also to Scott's editorial and biographical work. His judgment on the 19-volume edition of Swift, completed in 1814, is that it "hovered between the lazy and the downright plagiaristic". Scott had shamelessly cannibalised the third edition of John Nichols's edition which had appeared six years earlier.

His verdict on the *Life* of Dryden, on the other hand, is that it surpasses Johnson's biographical sketch and may have been the first social-critical biography of any British author. "He sets out to understand Dryden and his poetry in terms of his age, his politics and his material circumstances." Which is precisely what Sutherland's own biography has now achieved for The Great Unknown.


MARTIN BEDALL
Ben Okri is one of the most remarkable writers to have emerged from Africa; most of the characters in his latest work are disembodied voices

Invisible immortals

Sousa Jamba

ASTONISHING THE GODS
By Ben Okri
Phoenix House, £12

After the 1991 Booker-winning *tour de force* *The Famished Road*, followed by *Songs of Enchantment*, Ben Okri has written a worthy, laconic, complex novella. The unnamed protagonist of *Astonishing the Gods* is a boy who, until his exposure to books, leads a contented life dreaming of becoming a shepherd. In books, however, he discovers the invisibility of his people and sets out to "discover the secret of visibility".

I wondered whether this was going to be a narrative of the experience common to many young Africans who travel towards the more dominant parts of the world not only to discover but also to become a part of history. Well, not quite. Okri sets out to explore more complex issues, such as the traveller's identity and his relationship to the world which he finds.

Travelling in a ship, the protagonist comes to an island and, enchanted by its beauty and other-worldliness, he decides to stay. In a spare, unhurried prose, Okri conjures images of a world in which nothing is as it seems. Everything keeps changing, including the protagonist who, at some point, finds himself flaying in the heat of a bridge which has burst into fire before turning into water.

The protagonist is accompanied through the different "realms" of the island by a guiding voice with which he has profound altercations about the nature of time and reality. Nothing is named in this novella because, as the guide explains to the peripatetic hero, "when you name something it loses its existence to you".

Indeed, the protagonist has to be very careful in this island because its inhabitants, who are invisible, have very different values. This is a society in which the relationship between the concrete and abstract is very tenuous: to erect buildings the denizens of this island simply have to think about them. These are beings which "traded in philosophies, inspirations, prophecies, paradoxes, riddles, enigmas, visions and dreams". Not all of them, however, are content with their island or condition: at one point the protagonist meets a woman who lusts after him.

The protagonist has a real dilemma. Sometimes his wanderings through the island make him feel as though he is dreaming. In a Ben Okri novel, as usual, the distinction between dream and reality becomes blurred.

This island has its own rules that threaten to overwhelm the protagonist at any moment. He is filled with horror which later changes into enchantment. He wants to know the secrets behind this society, but in doing so he is also changing.

After many meanderings the hero ends up at a convocation of the invisibles where their masters take turns at speaking. Their words, however, have the strange effect of producing landscapes, sonatas and other beautiful things.

As in *The Famished Road*, Okri's prose strives for a synaesthetic effect: "He was eating of the grapes, breathing deeply of the rose-flavoured wind . . ." This stylistic device often works, as it fits in well with the protean nature of the island. But it can sometimes seem too laboured. The enviable spontaneity and brio which made *The Famished Road* so compelling are absent from this work.

Astonishing the Gods can be demanding and at times seems slightly abstruse: however, it raises many questions. What, then, is the world? Is it merely a projection of our dreams and aspirations? How real is the distinction between mind, body and matter?

Despite its reconditeness, a careful reading of this novella explains why Ben Okri is not only one of the most interesting writers recently to have come out of Nigeria, but among the best in the whole of the African continent.

Sousa Jamba's most recent book is The Lonely Devil *(Fourth Estate).*

Memories of my grandad in the Reich

Ian Brunskill

THE FILM EXPLAINER
Gert Hofmann
Secker & Warburg, £9.99
paperback original

By 1993, when he died aged 62, Gert Hofmann had become one of the most distinctive voices in post-war German fiction. Yet he was nearly 50 before his first published prose work appeared to great acclaim in 1979; until then, his reputation had rested on award-winning plays for radio.

That earlier career marks his subsequent work. Hofmann creates his characters in their own words: they speak for — and, not always unwittingly, against — themselves. Few German writers have had as fine an ear for the bleak banalities of everyday speech.

Many of Hofmann's protagonists live in worlds of their own devising. His fiction tests how much external reality those private worlds will stand. *The Film Explainer* is no exception. Karl Hofmann is the piano player and film explainer at the Apollo cinema in Limbach. Dressed in a tail coat, wielding his bamboo pointer with aplomb, he highlights key scenes in the films being shown, elucidating their meaning with fine phrases.

It is a job that does not need doing. Audiences are so small that the screening is sometimes cancelled: the films, in any case, have subtitles. None of this bothers Karl Hofmann. Indolent, vain, a fantasist, he lives his life among the film plots in his head, until the talkies put an end to his specious employment.

The novel presents a claustrophobic picture of small-town poverty in Germany between the wars. A grubby parody of the high-minded artistic idealist he thinks he is, Karl Hofmann dreams of the actress Asta Nielsen and composes a little bad verse, while his wife struggles to make ends meet, and his daughter slaves away at piecework for a local factory.

History gradually impinges. The Helenenstrasse becomes the Adolf-Hitler-Strasse: the brownshirted Herr Friedrich and Herr Götze replace the exotic Herr Cosimo as Karl Hofmann's walking companions; the redundant film explainer denounces the Jewish cinema owner whose films he used to explain.

Events are seen through the eyes of Karl Hofmann's grandson: frank, naive, yet missing little. From the novel's dedication ("In memoriam Karl Hofmann, 1873-1944, film explainer"), we can assume the child to be the Limbach-born author himself, and the film explainer to be a fictionalised portrait of his real grandfather. But Gert Hofmann's fascination with the distortions and deceptions of the narrative process should make the reader wary: as his narrator reminds us here, "to the memory, all things are possible".

The Film Explainer has been rendered into English by the author's son, the poet and translator Michael Hofmann. The tense and uncomfortable relationship between father and son was publicly played out in an extraordinary 1990 television documentary and in some of the poems in Michael Hofmann's 1986 collection, *Acrimony*. In his translation of this child's-eye view of a flawed, exasperating patriarch, the son has captured perfectly the sardonic economy of his father's prose, the malign comedy of his troubled, troubling vision.


Gert Hofmann wearing the uniform of the Hitler Youth

Cold comforts of farmyard and boarding house

Victoria James

VINEGAR HILL
By A. Manette Ansay
Viking £15

GAGARIN & I
By Stephen Blanchard
Chatto & Windus, £9.99

OF THESE two first novels, A. Manette Ansay's *Vinegar Hill* is as sharp and bitter as the title promises. It is a rural American *Cold Comfort Farm* played hideously for real, as Ellen and her family move to live with her in-laws — silent, brutal Fritz, and Mary-Margaret, an invalid obsessed with an unspeakable family secret.

Lying over everything, as stifling as the snow that wraps the farmland and as terrifying as the cyclone twisters which devastate it, are the suffocating precepts of American religiosity. Ansay constructs a disquieting picture of the consequences of submitting oneself to the rules of a world which is "as rigid, as precise as a church".

Corruption of the body — literal and spiritual — infects the writing. The reader is drawn, resisting, into the minds of Mary-Margaret, envious of her childless sister Salome "whose belly has never filled up with blood and guts that turned themselves into a child", and her son James. Ellen's husband, who is haunted by death. Watching his children playing roughly, he sees "the flesh unwrap from their bones and small blind creatures make nests in the hollows of their skulls".

By deft manipulation of the narrative, Ansay shows how the brutality of the farmyard combines with the unyielding morality of the church to create ties that bind and confine life from its earliest awakenings. For Salome, her first menstruation brought with it "the smell of slaughter" and "God's curse upon all women since the time of sinful Eve". James, when a child, witnesses but cannot dismiss, like the farm-boy in Seamus Heaney's *The Early Purges*, the facts of death, "the kittens congealed into a wet lump at the bottom of the tin bucket".

Ellen seeks escape for herself and her children from this house where "terrible things are hidden everywhere". She finds an unlikely saviour when she discovers the family secret — her husband's grandmother, who broke the laws both of nature and religion in defiance of her daughter's piety and her son-in-law's brutality. Ellen's own act of self-assertion is, however, finally tenous. One of Ansay's epigraphs to her novel is "God isn't like a star that can go out", and *Vinegar Hill*'s brilliant achievement is to show how long a shadow this unforgiving, perpetual light can cast over the lives of men.

GAGARIN & I by Stephen Blanchard is cast in a very different mould. Blanchard's writing is a lovingly meticulous recreation of English life in the mid-1960s, seen through the observant and increasingly knowing eyes of 14-year-old Leonard, a sickly boy with a thirst for knowledge and a passion for space flight.

Kept from school by his illness, Leonard continues his studies from home, tracking the progression of the space race, convinced that his heart will break "if the Yanks get there first" and desperate for the triumph of his Soviet idol, Yuri Gagarin. Living with his mother, aunt, and an eccentric assortment of lodgers in their boarding house, however, Leonard quickly learns much more about the effect of love than gravity.

Blanchard has the ability to recapture the clarity of childhood perception combined with the awkwardness of growing maturity, as when Leonard's mother beckons him to listen at a lodger's door and he hears "the sound of a thing which went on between a man and a woman, this breath that went on too long".

Almost cinematic in its lingering attention to detail, everyday objects are nevertheless rendered fresh and vivid by the transforming eye of Leonard, for whom the craters and mountains of the moon are more familiar. Observed with a gentle yet precise eye, *Gagarin & I* is both an act of nostalgia and a testimony to the unchanging nature of growing up.

THE TIMES Penguin
FESTIVAL OF FICTION

PENGUIN Books is 60 years old this year. In the fourth of a six-week series in which *The Times* publishes contemporary reviews of famous novels on the Penguin list, Nabokov's *Lolita* gets short shrift.

Now that Lolita is at last officially present among us curious readers can make up their minds about her merits – both as a bad girl and the possible subject of a good novel. Mr. Nabokov must be credited with knowing exactly what he is doing. During the war his admirable novel, *The Real Life of Sebastian Knight*, gained him reputation; and since then his short stories and *Pnin* have consolidated his claim to be taken seriously. The fact remains, however, that *Lolita* is not a book to be proud of.

Its construction is much looser than its morals, and it is written in a style which sets the teeth on edge by an excessive self-consciousness. Admittedly, Mr. Nabokov is writing in the person of Humbert Humbert, and has thus adjusted his own manner to that of a half-crazed nympholept. (Humbert's choice of words is infectious.) Admittedly, too, there are passages of brilliant fun – especially in the second half of the book, when Lolita and Humbert journey from motel to motel across the United States. But an idea of short story status has been inflated into a long novel, and it will not stand the enlargement, since no dramatic use of Humbert's obsession is made except to reiterate that it exists. Nobody is likely to be corrupted by this book, but very few readers are going to be much entertained by a study of mania which is neither objectively clinical nor emotionally engaging.

(The Times, November 12, 1959)

Exciting author events in March

THE PENGUIN Festival of Fiction will feature eight mid-week and weekend events throughout March, with more than 40 Penguin authors taking part in debates, readings, workshops and signings. Everyone attending will be entered into a FREE PRIZE DRAW to win a hamper full of Penguin goodies each Wednesday and a COMPAQ PRESARIO 460 all-in-one home computer each Saturday.

The Glasgow event scheduled for Saturday 11 March has been cancelled. Tickets are still available for remaining events at Canterbury, Manchester, Cambridge and Cardiff.

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7.10pm Humour: Clare Chambers, Lynne Truss, Maeve Haran
7.50pm Break/Signing
8.05pm Will Self and Jim Crace
8.45pm Signing
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Power to call in planning applications

Regina v Secretary of State for the Environment, Ex parte South Northampton District Council and Another

Before Lord Justice McCowan, Lord Justice Roch and Lord Justice Ward

[Judgment March 2]

The Secretary of State for the Environment could call in a planning application so as to recover jurisdiction to determine it himself if the application was within one of his published policy guidelines.

The fact that two rival applications for supermarket developments could be regarded as potential alternatives and one of them had been called in by the secretary of state did not bring the other application within some permissible "unofficial" guideline. The secretary of state's reasoned decision refusing to recover jurisdiction to determine the rival application was a valid decision and could not be disturbed.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing appeals by the secretary of state and Claymount Properties Ltd from the judgment of Mr David Widdicombe, QC, who, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division on December 20, 1993, ((1993) 68 P & C R 525) had quashed the refusal of the secretary of state to call in Claymount's application to develop a site north of Towcester.

The court further held that the deputy judge, having so decided, had been plainly wrong then to go on to hear and uphold applications under section 288 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 by South Northamptonshire District Council and the rival developers, Morbaine Ltd, against the decision of the inspector appointed by the secretary of state in favour of Claymount. In any event no grounds existed for the deputy judge holding that the inspector had erred in the granting of outline planning permission to Claymount.

In 1992 Claymount had applied for planning permission for the site. Shortly afterwards Morbaine had applied for permission for a supermarket on a town centre site which was designated for development in a local plan. Both proposals were for similar buildings and it was common ground that there was room for only one new supermarket in Towcester.

Morbaine's application was called in for determination by the secretary of state. The district council's request to the secretary of state to call in Claymount's application and for a joint inquiry to be held was refused by the secretary of state in a letter dated January 26, 1993.

In that letter, it was stated that the council's arguments were not considered sufficient to justify delay in consideration of Claymount's application and that "it is often the case that an appeal on a particular site will arise while the strategic or local planning framework for the area is in the process of being established or reviewed. This is not normally a sufficient reason for departing from our normal practice of ensuring that appeals are dealt with expeditiously."

Mr Richard Drabble for the secretary of state; Miss Elizabeth Appleby, QC, for Claymount Properties; Mr Anthony Porten, QC and Mr Graham Stoker for the district council; Mr Anthony Dinkin, QC, for Morbaine.

LORD JUSTICE McCOWAN said that the guidelines for the recovery of cases for decision by the secretary of state, published in CM43: *Planning Appeals, Call-in and Major Public Inquiries* as a reply to the Fifth Report from the Environment Committee of the House of Commons, Session 1985-86, were set out in the unreported judgment of Mr Justice Shiemann in *R v Secretary of State for the Environment and S. J. Investments Ltd, Ex parte Allied London Property Developments Ltd* (April 11, 1990).

They were as follows: (1) residential development of 150 or more houses; (2) proposals for development of major importance having more than local significance; (3) proposals giving rise to significant public controversy; (4) proposals which raised important or novel issues of development control; (5) retail developments over 100,000 square feet; (6) proposals for significant development in the Green Belt; (7) major proposals involving the winning and working of minerals; (8) proposals which raised significant legal difficulties; (9) proposals against which another government department had raised major objections, and (10) cases which could only be decided in conjunction with a case over which inspectors had no jurisdiction (so-called "linked" cases).

In addition the published reply stated that "there may on occasion be other cases which merit recovery because of the particular circumstances".

The deputy judge, having pointed out in his judgment that the secretary of state was not required to give reasons for refusing an application made under paragraph 3 of Schedule 6 to the 1990 Act to recover jurisdiction, went on to refer to *Padfield v Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food* ([1968] AC 997) and said that "in a case where there is no obligation to give reasons, if all the facts and circumstances point to a particular decision and the actual decision is different, it is open to the court to infer that there were no valid reasons for the decision".

A little later in his judgment the deputy judge, having referred to the further unofficial guideline for call-in where two proposals could be considered as potential alternatives, concluded that the case was "prima facie within the secretary of state's additional guideline about potential alternatives.

"The guidelines are in no way binding on the secretary of state, who can choose not to follow them. But in my judgment where a case is prima facie within one of the guidelines, the court is entitled to expect the secretary of state to give reasons why he has not followed and applied it. In the absence of reasons the court may conclude, as I do here, that there were no valid reasons for the decision."

There were a number of matters in which the deputy judge had gone wrong. First, the secretary of state did not have to give reasons for not calling in an application. However, in this case at an early stage in his letter of January 26 he had in fact given his reasons.

Second, it could not be accepted that the *Allied London* case indicated the existence of an unofficial guideline: great stress had there been placed on the importance that the Department of the Environment attached to expedience being shown in dealing with planning applications, the precise reason given by the secretary of state in this case.

Third, having decided to quash the secretary of state's decision not to call in Claymount's application, the judge was plainly wrong to go on to hear the appeal. To do so was pointless and of no effect. In any event no grounds existed entitling the judge to reverse the inspector's decision given in his letter.

Lord Justice Roch delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Ward agreed.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Fishers, Nottingham; Bird & Bird; Bullivant Jones & Co, Liverpool.

Establishing defence in toy safety case

Balding v Lew Ways Ltd

Before Lord Justice Pill and Mr Justice Keene

[Judgment February 28]

In order to establish a defence under section 39 of the Consumer Protection Act 1987 to the offence of supplying a toy which did not satisfy the essential requirements of the Toys (Safety) Regulations (SI 1989 No 1275), it was not sufficient to show compliance with a British Standard. A defendant had to show that all steps had been taken to avoid falling below the standard required by the regulations themselves.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so stated when allowing an appeal by case stated against the acquittal by Towcester Justices on April 18, 1994 of Lew Ways Ltd of three offences under section 40(1) of the 1987 Act on informations laid on November 3, 1993 by Mr Alan Balding, assistant county trading standards officer, Northampton.

The informations stated that Toys R Us had supplied a toy, namely a "Tipper Trike", which did not satisfy the essential safety requirements set out in Schedule 2 to the 1989 Regulations, in that it had an accessible protrusion which was not so designed and constructed that the risks of physical injury from contact with it were reduced as far as possible, contrary to regulation 12 of the 1989 Regulations and section 12(1) of the 1987 Act, and the commission of the offence was due to the act or default of Lew Ways Ltd who was guilty of the offence by virtue of section 40(1) of the 1987 Act.

Mr Vernon Pugh QC and Mr Ian Ponter for the council; Mr William Andreae-Jones, QC and Mr Andrew Fisher for the company.

LORD JUSTICE PILL said that before the justices, the prosecution had given evidence including an interview with the company's sales director which showed that the company knew of the existence of the regulations.

No evidence was called as to why the company had decided to test the toy against the British Standard (BS 5665) and why there had been no test to satisfy the safety requirements of the regulations.

There was no evidence that the company had asked its independent analysts if the British Standard in the certificate issued complied with the regulations. The certificate had not been produced before the justices.

The justices had assumed that the offence under section 40(1) was proved and that the basis for a successful defence was reliance by the company on the British Standard certificate and no other evidence.

It was common ground before the present court that the offence was proved subject to the statutory defence and that the elements were different from those required to comply with the regulations.

The issue before the court was whether the defence had been made out.

Section 39 of the 1987 Act provided: "(1) ... in proceedings against any person for an offence to which this section applies it shall be a defence ... to show that he took all reasonable steps and exercised all due diligence to avoid committing the offence."

His Lordship referred to the test for all reasonable steps and all due diligence in *Amos v Melcon (Frozen Foods) Ltd* ((1985) 149 JP 712).

Mr Andreae-Jones had submitted that the company was entitled to rely on the BS certificate showing compliance with the British Standard. The company had shown due diligence by submitting the toy to competent and reputable analysts and on receipt of their report it had been reasonable to assume the requirements of the regulations were the same as those for the British Standard. The company was entitled to conclude that the toy was good and complied with safety requirements. Its failure to unearth the regulations did not show that it had failed to show due diligence.

Mr Pugh had rightly emphasised that the BS certificate did not purport to deal with whether or not the toy complied with regulations. There was a high burden on the company in relation to section 39 which it had not discharged on the basis on which the justices had found.

His Lordship said that the key question was whether the company had shown it had taken all steps to avoid committing the offence.

In his Lordship's judgment, the company had to show that such steps and due diligence were shown in relation to the regulations, that is, steps towards avoiding falling below the standard required by regulations made under parliamentary authority. It could not be shown that steps had been taken by showing compliance with other standards.

His Lordship would not give guidance as to what steps should be taken, but in the present case noted that there was not due diligence without further inquiries of the analysts whether or not the toy complied with the regulations. The company was not entitled to assume the British Standard complied with the regulations laid down by Parliament.

Whether an analyst was competent and sufficient to discharge the obligation would depend on the instructions given by the company. The company could not establish a section 39 defence if it had not asked the analysts whether the product complied with the law of the land.

His Lordship said uncontroversially that he would not exclude the possibility that a section 39 defence could be made out on the basis of evidence brought by the prosecution alone.

Finally, as the company had warranted to Toys R Us that the toy complied in all respects with the law of the land, it was clear that a company giving such warranty ought to show due diligence in complying. The appeal would be allowed and the case remitted.

Mr Justice Keene agreed

Solicitors: Sharpe Pritchard for Mr Michael Parker, Northampton; Goodger Auden, Burton on Trent.

Avoiding liability for nuisance order

Carr v Hackney London Borough Council

Before Lord Justice McCowan and Mr Justice McKinnon

[Judgment February 21]

A person against whom proceedings for a nuisance order had been brought under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 could avoid liability by showing that he was not the person by whose act, default or sufferance the nuisance arose or continued.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held dismissing Stephen Carr's appeal by case stated against the dismissal by Miss A. Jennings, Wells Street Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate, on July 6, 1994 of his complaint against his landlord, the London Borough of Hackney, that he was a person aggrieved by the existence of a statutory nuisance under section 82 of the 1990 Act.

Mr Sylvester Carrott for the appellant; Mr Jonathan Manning for the council.

MR JUSTICE McKINNON said that the nuisance of which the appellant complained consisted principally in condensation, dampness and mould in his flat. The council accepted that the nuisance had existed but, by completion of the hearing, it had abated. The question had then become whether the nuisance was likely to recur.

The magistrate found that the appellant had refused entry to the council when they had tried to install electric convector heaters in the flat. The appellant wished to have gas fired central heating installed as, according to him, convector heating was too expensive.

The magistrate found that if the nuisance was likely to recur it was not the fault of the council but of the appellant for not allowing access to install the heaters.

The question for the court was whether lack of access to the flat was open to the council on the likelihood of recurrence of the nuisance. The answer to that question depended on the construction of Part II of the 1990 Act. Sections 79 to 82 of that Act had replaced the Public Health Act 1936.

In *Warner v Lambeth LBC* ((1984) 15 HLR 42) it was held that it was open to a person against whom proceedings for a nuisance order had been brought under the 1936 Act to avoid liability by showing that he was not a person by whose act, default or sufferance the nuisance arose or continued.

The appellant had argued that section 82 of the 1990 Act was to be looked at on its own and there was no specific provision there for the defence relied on by the council and found by the magistrate. He submitted that the words in section 82 meant what they said, regardless of who was responsible for the abated nuisance being likely to recur, although such a defence would be available if the nuisance had not been abated.

The council argued that the defence was plainly available because there was no proper basis for distinguishing *Warner*. The schemes in both Acts were very similar in all material respects.

The council were proceeded against as the "person responsible", defined in section 79(7) as "the person to whose act, default or sufferance the nuisance is attributable".

The council submitted that if it was not open to the magistrate to find that the council were not responsible for the recurrence of the nuisance the result would be absurd; a person could procure a criminal conviction by preventing remedial work from being carried out.

It seemed to his Lordship that the council's approach could not be faulted. It was obvious that the defence contended for by the council was available in determining whether they were responsible for the nuisance and for the likely recurrence of it.

The appeal would be dismissed.

Lord Justice McCowan agreed.

Solicitors: Moss & Co, Stoke Newington; Mr Christopher Hinde, Hackney.

Amusement centre demand relevant

Regina v Chichester Crown Court, Ex parte Forte

Before Mr Justice Brooke

[Judgment February 23]

Where a local authority was exercising its discretion whether to grant or to refuse a permit under section 34 of the Gaming Act 1968 to operate an amusement centre with prize machines, demand for such a centre could be taken into consideration.

Mr Justice Brooke so stated in the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing an application for judicial review by Ralph Forte challenging the dismissal by Chichester Crown Court (Judge Birks and justices) on March 5, 1993 of an appeal pursuant to paragraph 11 of Schedule 9 to the Gaming Act 1968 against a refusal by Chichester District Council to grant him a permit under section 34 of the 1968 Act to operate an amusement centre with prizes.

Mr Michael Beloff, QC and Mr Kevin De Haan for Mr Forte; Mr Alan Moses, QC and Mr John Greaves for the council.

MR JUSTICE BROOKE said that Mr Beloff had submitted that the crown court was wrong to consider that in exercising its discretion to grant or refuse a permit, demand was not merely a relevant criterion but that there was additionally a burden on Mr Forte to prove that a demand for the centre existed. Alternatively, if the court was entitled to impose an obligation on Mr Forte, its treatment of the issue was fundamentally flawed.

Mr Beloff drew attention to other contemporaneous statutory schemes in the field of betting and gaming in which Parliament had expressly referred to a need to take demand into account: see Part II of the Gaming Act 1968 and paragraph 19(b)(ii) of Schedule 1 to the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act 1963. Parliament's omission to mention demand in Schedule 9 had to be taken as an indication that it intended to exclude considerations of demand from the decision making process.

His Lordship rejected that submission. Parliament gave the appropriate authority in Part III of the Act an unfettered discretion which was quite different from the tight statutory framework created by Part II.

Issues involving gaming machines often gave rise to strong feelings and if an amusement centre's proposed introduction awakened strong opposition there was no reason why the authority might not lawfully consider the extent to which a demand existed before deciding whether or not to grant a permit.

His Lordship rejected the second strand of Mr Beloff's argument that no reasonable court could have held on the evidence that there was not sufficient demand for the centre to outweigh the arguments adduced against it.

It was a question of fact for the crown court to determine and the court had concluded in a balanced way that from the evidence it would be impossible to assess the true demand, but it could not disagree with the council's opinion that there was insufficient evidence of public demand.

The court did not have to indicate the threshold of demand that had to be established. It had an unfettered discretion, and that necessarily involved it in a careful balancing of the different arguments, so long as they were all material to the decision it had to make.

His Lordship could find that there was no error in the approach of the council or the crown court entrusted with the decision. The application would be dismissed.

Solicitors: George Ide Phillips, Chichester; Mr Clive Evans, Chichester.

Security for costs on same facts

Petromin v Seenav Marine Ltd

Before Mr Justice Colman

[Judgment February 8]

Where both parties in a case involving a counterclaim were making substantial claims based on the same facts, then any order for security of costs was to be for the full amount of those costs and not merely for the amount by which the plaintiff's costs were increased in defending the counterclaim.

When a court was considering whether to grant the permanent stay of a counterclaim in arbitration proceedings it should give appropriate weight to the fact that such an order would absolutely deprive the defendant of his claim and such an order should not be given unless there had been a contumelious failure to comply with a previous order or there was no possibility that any existing temporary stay could succeed.

Mr Justice Colman so held in chambers in the Queen's Bench Division, reported with his Lordship's consent, when refusing the application of the plaintiffs, Petromin SA, for a permanent stay of the counterclaim of the defendants, Seenav Marine Ltd, in the plaintiff's arbitration claim for a declaration that they had lawfully terminated a charter arrangement with the defendants and for damages for the defendant's wrongful termination of the charter agreement.

Mr Stephen Males for Petromin SA; Mr Biru Bhalla for Seenav Marine Ltd.

MR JUSTICE COLMAN said that where both parties were substantial claimants founding their claims on the same body of facts, as in the instant case, the plaintiff was entitled to be secured in respect of costs no less fully than if he were merely defendant to the claim advanced in the counterclaim and not also plaintiff in the action.

In deciding whether to grant the permanent stay of a counterclaim, the defendants having failed, contrary to the court's order, to provide security for the plaintiff's costs of the counterclaim, it was important to give appropriate weight to the fact that an order would absolutely deprive the claimant of his claim.

In a case where contumelious failure to comply with a court's order was not established and there was already an order for a temporary stay, an order for a permanent stay of a counterclaim should not be made unless it could confidently be stated that if the stay were left temporary there would be no reasonable chance that any future application to lift the stay upon tender of the security out of time could succeed.

Solicitors: Sinclair Roche & Temperley; Hill Lawson, Ewell.

Duty to avoid interventions

Regina v Ahmed

Interventions by a judge during the course of a criminal trial were generally undesirable.

That undesirability was increased if such interventions were made in an impatient or critical manner.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Glidewell, Mr Justice Popplewell and Mr Justice Johnson) so stated on March 3 in dismissing an appeal by Hickmet Ahmed against her conviction in March 1993 at Middlesex Guildhall Crown Court (Judge Norwood and a jury) of arson being reckless as to whether life was endangered, for which she was sentenced to probation for 12 months.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL, giving the judgment of the court, said that interventions by a judge in a criminal trial were generally undesirable for a number of reasons: (i) they might unsettle a witness, (ii) they might prevent counsel from pursuing a legitimate point, (iii) they might belittle counsel for the defence, or (iv) they might indicate a preconceived view by the judge.

There was no way that the court could tell from the transcript the manner in which interventions were made in the present case but it was the duty of a judge to refrain from impatience or an appearance of criticism. Despite the inappropriate interventions by the judge, the court was nevertheless satisfied that counsel for the defence was not prevented from making the points he wished to make and the verdict at the end was not unsafe or unsatisfactory. Accordingly, the appeal would be dismissed.

Second application for order possible

Bristol and West Building Society v Brandon

Before Mr Justice Colman

[Judgment December 16]

There could be more than one application for an order for summary judgment under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court in the same case so long as there was a separate legal or factual basis in the new application.

Where a solicitor who was a bare trustee of money derived from a mortgage arrangement was also responsible for carrying out the transfer of the mortgaged property to the mortgagor and failed to have the transfer arrangement properly sealed so that the mortgagee's charge could not be registered on the land register and was rendered a mere equitable rather than a legal charge, the solicitor had breached the terms of the trust and was liable in restitution to the mortgagor.

Mr Justice Colman so held in a chambers judgment in the Queen's Bench Division, reported with his Lordship's consent, when allowing the appeal of Bristol and West Building Society against the decision of Master Eyre of November 8, 1994 that their application for summary judgment against Bernard Rodney Brandon should be adjourned and allowing the plaintiffs their claim for summary judgment.

Mr Charles Douthwaite for the building society; Mr Ian Gatt for Mr Brandon.

MR JUSTICE COLMAN said it must clearly have been a term of the trust, a term upon which the money was held from the building society to pay away the funds, that all that had to be done by the vendors and borrowers had been done by the time of payment so that the solicitor, acting for the lender, was in a position to exercise complete control over the perfection of the charge as a legal registered charge.

When the building society's money was paid over it was in circumstances where the trustee had no power to make the payment under the terms of the trust.

There could be no objection in principle to more than one Order 14 application provided that the legal or factual basis of the claim in the second application was quite separate from that relied upon in the pleading underlying the first application.

Solicitors: Eversheds, Holt, Phillips & Buck, Bristol; Mills & Reeve, Norwich.

Transferor's intention can be relevant

Commissioners of Custom and Excise v Padglade Ltd

The immediate intention of the transferor and transferee of business assets at the time of that transfer was a relevant consideration for the purposes of article 12(1) of the Value Added Tax (Special Provisions) Order (SI 1981 No 1741), as amended, in determining how those assets were to be used.

Mr Justice Schiemann so held in the Queen's Bench Division on February 23 when dismissing an appeal by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise of the decision of a VAT tribunal allowing an appeal by Padglade Ltd under section 40(1) of the Value Added Tax Act 1983.

The appellants submitted that the tribunal had erred in law in holding that certain supplies of stock and equipment from Intermill Ltd to Padglade Ltd did not represent a transfer of a business as a going concern within article 12 of the 1981 Order, as amended by the Value Added Tax (Special Provisions) (Amendment) Order (SI 1991 No 2503).

MR JUSTICE SCHIEMANN said that both companies were owned by the same man. The appellants had argued, inter alia, that an examination of the owner at the inquiry as to the circumstances of the transfer and his intentions was not permitted.

His Lordship examined the relevant case law, including *Customs and Excise Commissioners v Dearwood Ltd* ([1986] STC 327, and said that, while a future intention was irrelevant, none of the cases was authority for the proposition that the immediate intention of the transferor was irrelevant.

Such an intention was not conclusive either way but it was one of the facts to be taken into account.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

FINANCIAL NOTICES

THE CARNEGIE UNITED KINGDOM TRUST

Abstract of Audited Accounts

For the Year Ended 31 December 1994

	(£)	(£)
Funds and Provisions		
Endowment Fund		15,492,574
Reserve Fund		1,081,323
		16,573,897
Reserve Fund		
As at 31 December 1993		943,177
Income from investments, etc		1,215,544
		2,158,721
Less		
Grant expenditure	721,386	
Non-grant expenditure	356,012	
		1,077,398
As at 31 December 1994		1,081,323

C JOHN NAYLOR, Secretary and Treasurer

Comely Park House, Dunfermline, Fife KY12 7EJ

9 March 1995

LEGAL NOTICES

Eurotec Limited (IN CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION) THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of the above named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 13th April 1995, to send their full forenames and surname, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned. K.P.Barry, FCA Leonard Curtis & Co. PO Box 585, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved. DATED THIS 3rd March 1995. K.P.BARRY, Liquidator.

Eurotec Limited (IN CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION) THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986. In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that I, K.P.Barry, FCA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 585, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 3rd March 1995. DATED THIS 3rd March 1995. K.P. Barry, FCA Liquidator

H.L. Motorworks (Wilmslow) Limited

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, on 17th March 1995 at 12.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq. A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. PO Box 585, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors. DATED THIS 2nd March 1995. P.Ives - Director.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE NO.000555 of 1995 CHANCERY DIVISION Re: SIDLAW GROUP PLC - and - Re: THE COMPANIES ACT 1985. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 1st March 1995 confirming the cancellation of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 2nd March 1995. Dated 7th March 1995 LINKLATERS & PAINES (SFW), Barrington House, 59-67 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7JA. Solicitors for the above-named Company.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE WARWICK COUNTY COURT NUMBERS 119 AND 120 OF 1991 J W SHERBOURNE AND S M SHERBOURNE (BOTH IN BANKRUPTCY) FORMERLY TRADING AS "AGMAN SERVICES AND SUPPLIES" NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I, Melvyn Laurence Ross of Elliot, Woolfe & Ross, Lidgra House, 250 Kingsbury Road, London, NW9 0BS, was appointed Trustee for the Estates in Bankruptcy of the above named, by order of the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 295 of the Insolvency Act 1986 on 1 March 1995. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN pursuant to Rule 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that I intend to declare a first and final dividend in this matter within four months of the date hereof. Any person claiming to be a creditor is required to lodge with me a Proof of Debt in the restured form, by no later than 28 March 1995, failing which they will be excluded from the dividend. GIVEN THIS 6TH DAY OF MARCH 1995 MELVYN LROSE - TRUSTEE

NO 001196 OF 1995 IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF THE BUCKNALL GROUP plc AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 27th day of February 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of a reduction of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company by £1,822,000. AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard by Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on Tuesday the 22nd day of March 1995. ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of the Share Premium Account should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same. DATED this 7th day of March 1995 Mears Edge & Ellison Rutland House 148 Edmund Street Birmingham B3 2JR Solicitors for the Company.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER CORAL ROOFING (WESSEX) LIMITED Registered number 2666680 Nature of business Roofing Contractors Trade classification 25 and 26 Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s) 28 February 1995 Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s) National Westminster Bank PLC M D Rollings and W J Elles Joint Administrative Receivers Office holder no(s) 8107 and 1983/01 Address Wessex House 19 Threefield Lane Southampton SO14 3QB

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER CORAL ROOFING (CENTRAL) LIMITED Registered number 2713186 Nature of business Roofing Contractors Trade classification 25 and 26 Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s) 28 February 1995 Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s) National Westminster Bank PLC M D Rollings and W J Elles Joint Administrative Receivers Office holder no(s) 8107 and 1983/01 Address Wessex House 19 Threefield Lane Southampton SO14 3QB

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 Notice of appointment of administrative receivers RETAIL MANAGEMENT LIMITED Registered number 2644465 TO ALL CREDITORS I, C K Rayment of Ernst & Young, 400 Capability Green, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 3LU hereby give notice that on 27 February 1995 H MacNaughton and I were appointed by Barclays Bank PLC, joint administrative receivers over the property of the above named company under the powers contained in a fixed and floating charge dated 9 November 1993. C.K. Rayment Joint Administrative Receiver Dated 3rd March 1995.

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

VARDY SYDNEY late of 9 CELLARHILL TERRACE, GRASSWELL, HOUGHTON LE SPRING, TYNE AND WEAR DH4 4EB died 22nd February 1995. Particulars to Lease & Miller, 1 Sunderland Street, Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne and Wear DH4 4BG by 28th May 1995.

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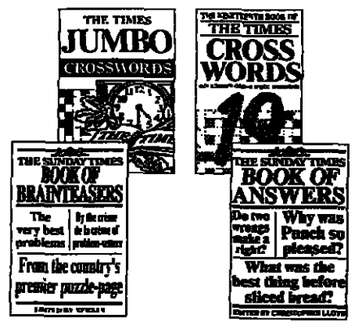
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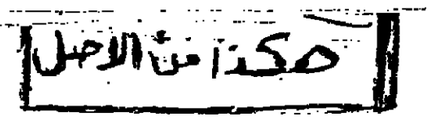
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Ian MacKinnon

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Jenny MacArthur on a physiotherapist who treats casualties of the equine world



PHILIP TULL



Physiotherapist Mary Bromiley treats an injured horse at the Downs House Rehabilitation Centre. Her experience also includes work in a Malayan leper colony

High on the Berkshire Downs above the town of Lambourn 20 injured horses, mostly eventers and racehorses, are being nursed back to health at the Downs House Rehabilitation Centre. The unit, one of only a handful of residential "rehabs" in the country, was started 12 years ago by Mary Bromiley, a chartered physiotherapist, and her eldest daughter, Penelope Slattery.

It opened with just one patient — a racehorse with a tendon problem sent by the trainer, Tony Balding. Today the boxes are full, six staff are employed and former "patients" include Miinnehoma, the winner of last year's Grand National, and Carvill's Hill, the winner of the 1991 Welsh National.

Physiotherapy on horses — which can be carried out only after referral from a veterinary surgeon — is in increasing demand for a wide range of conditions. The injuries Mrs Bromiley is currenly treating range from a broken pastern ("ten years ago he'd have been put down", Mrs Bromiley says) to a broken neck. Her job is to rebuild the muscles to support the injured area, using massage and electrical treatments.

"Physio is not magic," Mrs Bromiley, a youthful grandmother with a no-nonsense manner, says. "It can simply put animals back into the state where trainers can train them. The key to it all is to assess correctly what exercise a horse should be doing at each stage of recovery." Facilities in her well-equipped yard include a swimming pool, treadmill, horsewalker and an outdoor manège. "It's a team effort — my girls have got to say if a horse isn't comfortable with what it's doing."

If a horse is not responding to treatment Mrs Bromiley will send it back to the vet for re-evaluation. "You must look beyond the obvious. You must get the correct diagnosis," she stresses. "That is why it's so important to work alongside the vet."

Not all physiotherapists are as principled. Ten years ago the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons expressed concern at the growing number of poorly trained physios setting themselves up in practice. Mrs Bromiley was asked to join a committee of investigation. The findings prompted her and a colleague, Penelope Richmond-Watson, to set up the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Animal Therapy (ACPAT). It now has 54 practising members — all of whom have trained for three to four years. Mrs Bromiley, who writes and lectures extensively on the subject, is a former chairman.

It is a role she might never have assumed had it not been for the early death of her father 40 years ago. At the time Mrs Bromiley was living in Devon and working with the Devon and Somerset Staghounds. Told by her mother to get herself a proper career, she chose physiotherapy because it seemed "an easy option". Marriage to a doctor took her to Malaya, where she worked in a leper colony.

Her skills might have been confined to humans had she not heard, while in Malaya, that former racehorses could be bought for five dollars. "They were all old crocks but I couldn't resist it." Her first crock, Silver Reed, suffered from a shoulder injury. Mrs Bromiley, an accomplished rider, restored his health and went on to win her first amateur race with him. "I realised that treating horses is more or less the same as with humans except, of course, animals can't say where the pain is." Since then she has treated sheep, deer, a camel and a £35,000 angora goat.

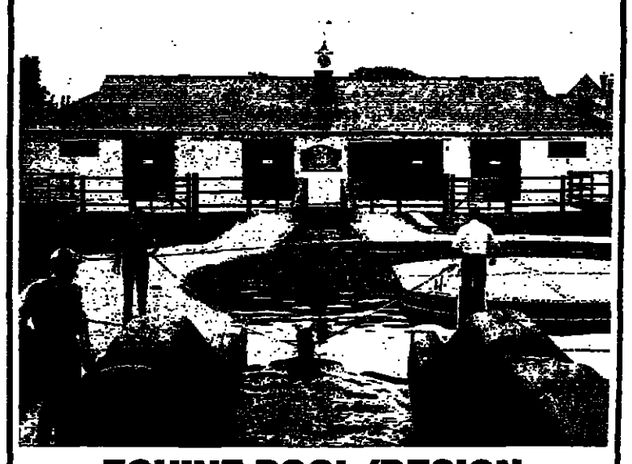
Mrs Bromiley also treats jockeys, but her time is increasingly occupied with horses. Her younger daughter, Jennifer, concentrates on treating the humans in their "Flying Physio" service. Mrs Bromiley is also the physio adviser to the Jockey Club and the British three-day event team.

Keeping up with the latest apparatus is essential. The new muscle stimulator — pioneered by Diana Faragher, a chartered physiotherapist working with facial palsy — has proved a breakthrough. "It has remarkably little skin sensation, so a horse will tolerate it." The laser, which acts by putting energy into cells, is still not fully understood. "We think it works on the nervous system, but much more research needs to be done in that area."

Mrs Bromiley is constantly seeking to extend her own knowledge. "Why", she asks, "does a totally fit horse break his pelvis when galloping on the Flat — or why does a leg suddenly shatter? We need to look behind the injuries to why they occur in the first place."

Although her work is both physically and mentally demanding there are due rewards. Watching Carvill's Hill, a horse she treated for a pelvic injury, win the Welsh National for Martin Pipe was a high spot. Less public but no less satisfying is the regular departure of rehabilitated horses from Downs House. "They come in angry and cross because they are in pain," Mrs Bromiley says. "When they leave they are relaxed and starting to enjoy life again."

● *For information contact the ACPAT Secretary, Morland House, Salters Lane, Winchester, Hants SO22 5JP*



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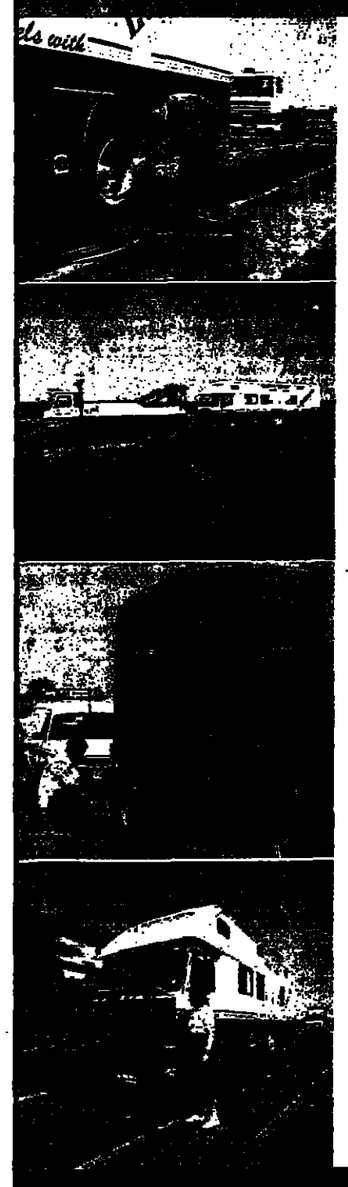
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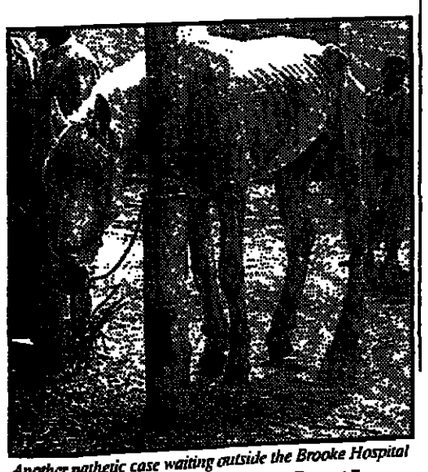
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Irish make sweeping changes for last game

BY DAVID HANDS AND MARK SOUSTER

SCOTLAND'S decision to retain an unchanged XV for their grand slam rugby union meeting with England at Twickenham on March 18 was as expected yesterday as was Ireland's desperate search for a winning formula, which has led them to name a new captain and make six changes — two of them positional — for their wooden spoon match with Wales in Cardiff on the final day of the five nations' championship.

Since the turnover of personnel which followed defeat by South Africa last November, Scotland have been consistency itself, and change has been forced on them only by injury. Now, they take their unbeaten championship record to Twickenham with the side that played so convincingly against Wales, though Duncan Peterson, the team manager, admitted yesterday that there had been imperfections in the 26-13 win.

"It was a tremendous performance, but there were areas we are concerned about," he said. "Players must step up their concentration and first-time tackling. Certain individuals must put in more tackles than they did on Saturday."

Scotland will delay the selection of their World Cup party until April 4, to give long-term casualties the greatest opportunity to recover. Three of those, Alan Sharp, Peter Walton and Andy Nichol, are spending this week at Lilleshall under the eye of Roy Laidlaw, one of Scotland's development officers, so that their prospects can be assessed.

After 14 matches as the Ireland captain, Michael Bradley is relegated to the replacements for the game against Wales. His place at scrum half goes to Niall Hogan, who played against England in January, and Terry Kingston, who was not even the first-choice hooker when the season began, will lead the side.

At least, he will do so provided that he has recovered from the bruised ribs that he sustained against France last weekend. It would be of a piece with Ireland's fortunes this year were Kingston to prove unfit.

The Dolphin hooker led Ireland against Japan during the 1991 World Cup, and in midweek matches during the tours to New Zealand and, last summer, to Australia. However, if he does play, it leaves the leadership of the Ireland World Cup squad in doubt, for Kingston will surely face a renewed challenge from Keith Wood for the hooking berth.

Wood has finally given best to a nagging shoulder injury and will rest for six weeks, hence Shayne Byrne's place among the replacements. Yet if Kingston, rather than Bradley, were to lead Ireland in South Africa, then Wood, one of the finds of the tour to Australia, would be the perennial replacement.

Ireland's first task is to beat Wales in Cardiff, before they meet in their World Cup pool for what seems likely to be the place as runner-up to New Zealand. Neither they nor Wales, whose XV will be named today, have won a championship match this season, and now Ireland have dropped Philip Danaher, Niall Woods and Eddie Halvey, as well as Bradley.

Paddy Johns, who, last week, had suspected appendicitis, is restored to the back row and Jonathan Bell moves into the centre, where he won his first two caps, against Australia nearly ten months ago. This permits Richard Wallace, of Garryowen, to return for a sixteenth cap, with Simon Geoghegan moving across to the left wing.

TEAMS

SCOTLAND (v England): A G Hastings (Watsonians, captain), C A Joiner (Melrose), G P J Townsend (Gala), S Hastings (Watsonians), K M Logan (Stirling County); C M Chalmers (Melrose), B W Redpath (Melrose); *D I* W Hilton (Bath), K S Milne (Heriot's FP), P H Wright (Boroughmuir), R I Wainwright (West Hartlepool), G W Weir (Melrose), S J Campbell (Dundee HSFP), *I R* Morrison (London Scottish), E W Peters (Bath). Replacements: I C Glasgow (Heriot's FP), A G Shiel (Melrose), D W Patterson (West Hartlepool), J F Richardson (Edinburgh Academicals), J J Mason (Dundee HSFP), K D McKenzie (Stirling County).

IRELAND (v Wales): J E Staples (Harlequins), R M Wallace (Garryowen), B J Mullin (Blackrock College), J C Bell (Ballymena), S P Geoghegan (Bath), E P Elwood (Lansdowne), N A Hogan (Terenure College); N J Popplewell (Wasps), T J Kingston (Dolphin, captain), P M Clohessy (Young Munster), A G Foley (Shannon), G M Fulcher (Cork Constitution), D A Tweed (Ballymena), W *D* McBride (Malone), P S Johns (Dungannon). Replacements: *M* Field (Malone), P A Burke (Cork Constitution), M T Bradley (Cork Constitution), *E O* Halvey (Shannon), *G F* Halpin (London Irish), S Byrne (Blackrock College).



MARC ASPLAND

Foley, who scored a try for the Barbarians, holds off a challenge from Foale at Northampton yesterday

Halpin nets hat-trick in late try spree

East Midlands 19
Barbarians 56

BY DAVID LLEWELLYN

GARY HALPIN, the Ireland tight-head prop, claimed a hat-trick of tries as the Barbarians eventually produced their traditional early spring feast of tries against East Midlands in the Mobbs Memorial match at Franklin's Gardens yesterday.

Yet before the feast went the famine as both teams fumbled and stumbled through a pointless first 20 minutes. Then things clicked. The shaven-headed Halpin, who has been on the Ireland bench in the five nations' championship this season, scored the first three of the invitation XV's eight tries. Paul Burke, his fellow Ireland replacement, converted all eight tries, a kicking display for the Ireland selectors to ponder, after they had dropped him after the opening two five nations' matches. Burke also had a hand in a couple of the Barbarians' tries.

In all, Irishmen accounted for 41 of the Barbarians' points — Anthony, the Shannon flanker, and Niall Woods, the Ireland wing, scoring one try apiece.

English youth rugby will benefit by £2,400 from Scottish Amicable, the Barbarians' sponsors, who will be donating £300 for each try scored.

The remaining Barbarians' tries were scored by Phil de Glanville (2), their captain, and Derek Stark, the Scotland wing. East Midlands were no slackers themselves and had to cope with the late withdrawal through pressure of work of Ian Hunter, their full back, who is trying to force his way into the England World Cup squad after injury. Cameron Glanville, of Bedford, his replacement, did not let the side down, however, and scored their third and final try, midway through the second half.

Paul Alston, the East Midlands' captain, scored the try of the match. It came in the 52nd minute and began deep in their own 22, the ball passing through five pairs of hands before Alston touched down.

Glanville's effort was praise-worthy, too. He was on the end of a fine threequarter move after the East Midlands forwards had set up an attacking position close to the Barbarians line.

East Midlands last won this annual fixture in 1985. Since then, the Barbarians have averaged almost nine tries a game.

SCORERS: East Midlands: Tries: Moir, Alston, Glanville. Conversions: Grayson (2). Barbarians: Tries: Halpin (3), Stark, de Glanville (2), Foley, Woods. Conversions: Burke (8)

EAST MIDLANDS: (Northampton unless stated): C Glanville (Bedford); C Moir, R MacNaughton, B Whetstone (Bedford), R Subbians (Bedford); P Grayson, M Dawson, M Volland, D Frankland (Long Buckby), M Lewis, I Skingsley (Bedford), M Upex (Bedford), S Foale (Northampton), P Alston (Bedford, captain), G Seely

BARBARIANS: M Beck (Bridgend and Wales); D Stark (Boroughmuir and Scotland), N Greenstock (Wasps), P de Glanville (Bath and England, captain), N Woods (Blackrock and Ireland); P Burke (Cork Constitution and Ireland), S Worrall (Rotherham and RAF); K Colclough (Swansea), *S Byrne (Blackrock College)*, G Halpin (London Irish and Ireland), R Appleyard (Swansea), J Richardson (Edinburgh Academicals and Scotland), N Hadley (*Wasps and Canada*), A Foley (Shannon), C Vyvyan (Sale).

Referee: J Fleming (Scotland).

SPORT IN BRIEF

Lewis return set for Sacramento

SACRAMENTO has been chosen as the venue for Lennox Lewis's final eliminator for the World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight championship against Lionel Butler, of the United States, on May 13. It will be the Briton's first contest since he lost the WBC title to Oliver McCall, another American, at Wembley last September.

Dublin, Reno and Las Vegas were also in contention, but the 15,000-seater Arco Arena — the home of the Sacramento Kings basketball team — made the best offer. Butler, 27, is a hard-hitter from Los Angeles who has had more than 30 contests, the last ten of which he has won by knockout.

☐ Gerald McClellan regained consciousness yesterday, 12 days after his World Boxing Council super-middleweight title bout with Nigel Benn. The American is breathing by himself after being taken off sedation.

Title success at eighty

BOWLS: Gwen Pepper, 80, and Liz Read and Bernice Trafford, her two international team-mates, of Cherwell, Oxford, won the English women's indoor triples championship at Northampton yesterday by beating Ann Anderson, Maureen Whitton and Margaret Shaw, of Darlington, 21-9 in the final (Gordon Allan writes). It was the Cherwell club's first success in an event in which they have been runners-up twice. There was little to choose between the leads. Pepper and Anderson, and the issue was decided by Trafford's ability at skip to play important shots when Cherwell were in difficulty.

Mahaney shows the flag

YACHTING: Kevin Mahaney and his crew on board *Young America* won the round-robin America's Cup defence trials with two days to spare in San Diego yesterday. They now proceed to the semi-final stage with a valuable two-point advantage over *Stars & Stripes*, skippered by Dennis Conner, and the all-women crew on *Mighty Mary*. *Young America* ended the gruelling two-month trials with a record of 14 wins and six defeats. The crew closed the series by sailing past *Stars & Stripes* during heavy weather on Tuesday to win by more than two minutes.

Zarak moves through

SQUASH: Zarak Jahan, of Pakistan, moved into the third round of the Anderson Consulting Portuguese Open with a five-set victory over Philip Whitlock, of England, in Lisbon yesterday. Zarak, despite being restricted by a knee brace, showed his customary determination to win 10-15, 15-10, 15-12, 14-15, 15-7 in a match lasting 77 minutes. Whitlock led 7-2 and 12-8 in the third game, but Zarak found another gear to take seven successive points. After Whitlock had edged the fourth game, Zarak easily won the decider and now meets Jansher Khan, the No 1 seed.

Elliott for president

HOCKEY: Robin Elliott was elected president of the Hockey Association at its annual general meeting in London yesterday. He replaces Phil Appleyard, who decided to stand down after ten years. Appleyard will continue as treasurer of the International Hockey Federation.

☐ Sir William Borlase school, from Marlow, won the British Aerospace girls' under-16 national schools championships in a snow-covered Blackpool yesterday, beating Wisbech, from Cambridge, 2-0 in the final match.

Crisis talks planned

SWIMMING: The Amateur Swimming Federation of Great Britain is to hold an emergency meeting with coaches and the directors of swimming for England, Scotland and Wales after the decision by Don Talbot, the head of coaching in Australia, not to accept an offer to become Britain's first national performance director. A spokesman for the British Swimming Coaches Association said: "This is now a matter of emergency. We must move on and make our plans for the summer ahead and the Olympic Games next year."

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Nowadays, it is generally accepted by the more serious players that to respond at the two level you must have at least ten points. That has advantages in many sequences. However, it does produce some distortions when you are responding on a weaker hand. On each of the hands below, what do you bid over your partner's one heart bid?

(A)	♠J432	♥5	♦AQJ97	♣J942
(B)	♠J2	♥4	♦Q7643	♣K10854
(C)	♠AQ104	♥7	♦KQJ94	♣1084
(D)	♠J2	♥6	♦10432	♣KQJ983

(A) One spade. With only nine points, you do not have enough to respond at the two level; but do not make the mistake of responding 1NT — if your partner has four spades, you will miss a fit in that suit.

This hand will play well in spades if your partner has four — you will be able to ruff out your partner's hearts.

(B) One NT. A consequence of keeping up the strength of two level responses is you have to bid one no trump on some bizarre distributions.

This, incidentally, is in contrast with all other no-trump responses and rebids — these should always be more or less balanced, with at least two cards in partner's suit.

(C) Two diamonds, now you have enough strength to bid at the two level. A typical continuation might be:

W	E
1♥	2♠
2♥	2♠

Two spades is forcing, and shows game aspirations. Some players would consider it game-forcing. Not me though — I would pass if my partner continued with three diamonds or three hearts.

(D) 1NT. If your partner bids again, you can bid clubs — now he will realise that, although you have a good suit, you will not have much in the way of high cards. Notice the effect on this sequence:

W	E
1♥	2♠
2♦	3♠

As East bids two clubs on the first round, he is known to have quite a good hand — with a weaker one, he would have started with 1NT.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Chess for charity

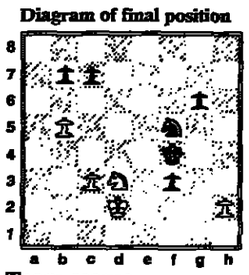
Today, I publish one of the games from the 400 which were played by ten teams against 11 British champions in a record-breaking exhibition at the Royal Automobile Club over the weekend. The event raised more than £5,000 for the Save the Children charity.

White: Bob Wade
Black: Tony Buzan
RAC, London, March, 1995
Veresov opening

1	d4	d5
2	Nc3	Nf6
3	Bg5	Nc6
4	Bxf6	exf6
5	e4	dxe4
6	Nxe4	Qxd4
7	Qxd4	Nxd4
8	0-0-0	Nc6
9	Bb5	Bd7
10	Nf3	0-0-0
11	Rhe1	Bb4
12	c3	Ba5
13	Bc4	Be6
14	Bxe6+	fxe6
15	Nc5	e5
16	Ne6	Rxd1+
17	Rxd1	Rg8
18	Nc5	Bb6
19	Ne4	Rd8
20	Rxd8+	Kxd8
21	g4	Kd7
22	a4	a6
23	b4	Ke6
24	Kc2	g6
25	g5	hxg5
26	Nexg5+	Kf5
27	Nxh7	Bxf2
28	b5	axb5
29	axb5	Ne7
30	Nhg5	e4
31	Nh3	exd3
32	Nxf2	Kf4
33	Kd2	Nf5
34	Nd3+	

adjudicated as a win for Black

Diagram of final position



Team scores

The scores by the various teams were as follows (all out of 40 points possible): equal 1, St Paul's School, London and Watson, Farley and Williams, 7.5pts; equal 3, British Junior Ladies, Royal Automobile Club and the guest celebrity team, all 6.5; equal 6, City of London School and Ashtead Jrs, 6.

Champions scores

The leading scores by the British champions against the teams (again out of 40 possible) were as follows: Jon Speelman 39.5; Michael and Jonathan Mestel 37.5; Ray Keene 36.5; Paul Littlewood 36; William Hartston 34; Michael Basman 33; Bob Wade 30.5.

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

INANGA
a. A Zulu priest
b. An antipodean whitebait
c. Apache epics

KIORE
a. False gold ore
b. A vegetarian rat
c. A Muslim code of manners

METTWURST
a. Smoked sausage
b. A middle-distance race
c. An "ng" diacritic

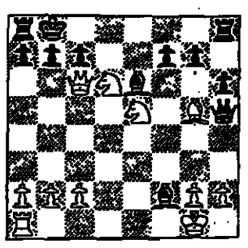
HORNERO
a. A cowboy
b. A baker-bird
c. Paint to imitate marble

Answers on page 45

CHESS MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is a variation from the game Tasic — Nikolic, Arandelovac 1993. This position is based on one given in Garry Kasparov's *Chess Puzzle Book*. White has offered his queen but, rather than taking it, Black has offered a bishop. What should White do?



Solution page 45

SPORTS LETTERS

Total ban would be unfair

From Mr Tom Biggs-Davison

Sir, David Miller (March 2) forgets that without supporters there would be no professional football, and fails to draw a distinction between those of us who travelled to Bruges on packages organised by Chelsea Football Club and those who travelled independently, ignoring explicit requests made by the club. The former are supporters; the latter, self evidently, are not.

I saw no "siege of the beautiful, medieval city of Bruges" before the match. It was friendly and peaceful. There was, understandably, an extraordinary police presence at the Olympiastadion (some distance from the old city) as there had been at ports and airports, and yet the Belgian authorities have complimented Chelsea FC on the behaviour of their 2,000 and more supporters before, during and after the match. If that behaviour was in part driven by the certain knowledge that offenders would be identified by the club and never again be allowed to travel on official packages, then so be it.

Chelsea supporters cannot confirm or deny Miller's description of what took place an hour after the final whistle. They were not there. They were already on their coaches heading for the coast on a route that kept them well away from the city. The threat came from independent travellers who attach themselves to English football but who have no interest in the game. Of course, Government should act. Of course, prosecutions against those who threaten public safety should be brought and sentences should be severe. Clubs have been calling for such legislative support for many years.

A total ban on overseas travel would only penalise the true supporter who would observe it. A ban on independent travel, with proper penalties in place for any breach, is the way forward.

Yours faithfully,
TOM BIGGS-DAVISON,
28 Princes Street,
Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

From Mr A. McDonald

Sir, The explusion of a large number of British "football hooligans" from Belgium makes me wonder under what authority the Belgian police were acting. The troublemakers were rounded up and placed on a ferry to Britain within hours of their arrival.

Most of them were not charged with any offence. No deportation orders were made. They were citizens of an EU state exercising their freedom of movement as provided by the Maastricht Treaty.

Yours faithfully,
A. McDONALD,
7 Colson Way, Whitley Bay,
Tyne and Wear.

Dangerous dose

From Mrs D. Amers

Sir, I find it almost impossible to believe that a sports team manager should offer co-proxamol to a healthy 17-year-old for a headache (report, March 1). It is a dangerous drug and the packet carries a leaflet from the makers listing the side-effects.

Of course, it is unlikely these would occur through a single dose; what is almost sure to happen is drowsiness or even giddiness which would not help a competitor in modern pentathlon. Also printed is the warning: "Remember this medicine is only for you. Never give it to any others. It may harm them even if their symptoms are the same as yours."

I have been taking it under medical supervision for six years, but only use it when my arthritic pain is so bad it can be relieved by nothing else.

Yours faithfully,
D. AMERS,
9 Norfolk House, Courtlands,
Richmond, Surrey.

Switch final to September

From Mr David R. Bateman

Sir, David Hands (February 28) reports on the potential problems for the England rugby union squad if Bath and Leicester again reach the final of the Pilkington Cup.

This will inevitably be a hard-fought game, and it seems incredible that the Rugby Football Union should allow up to 13 members of the World Cup squad to face possible injury within days of leaving for South Africa.

Another solution must be found. The final could be allowed to proceed, excluding members of the national squad from the teams, or it could be postponed until the return of the team from South Africa. The first option would not be popular with either the clubs or the spectators, and the second option would mean the game being played out of the season.

Alternatively, the final could be made the first showpiece event of the 1995-96 season, in September. For this important year, while England has a team with the potential to win, this has to be the best option.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID R. BATEMAN,
The Wayside,
390 Fencepiece Road,
Chigwell, Essex.

TV off the ball

From Mr Edward Young

Sir, Matthew Bond's excellent TV Action Replay (March 6) about coverage of international rugby union matches ends with "the incident that got away" where "the BBC's cameras have missed vital, off-the-ball action" and recommends more cameras.

Perhaps they are not necessary. Quite apart from simply turning a camera to cover off-the-ball incidents, the director should realise that the ball is not necessarily dead after an unsuccessful kick at goal, and if it goes into touch it can be rapidly brought into play by a quick throw-in. But the BBC cameras and again and again focus on the visual cliché of the head and shoulders of the last player of the ball while an exciting counter-attack is beginning off camera.

I am, yours faithfully,
E. YOUNG,
Stile Park, Willowglen Road,
Stornoway, Isle of Lewis.

Legal precedent

From Mr Edward Grayson

Sir, There is a legal precedent to Mr John Potter's suggestion (Sports Letters, March 2) that a test prosecution is long overdue for a boxing death.

In 1901, at the Central Criminal Court, a prosecution for manslaughter followed a fatal accident after a head injury during a contest at the National Sporting Club.

The judge "thought the weight of the evidence went to show the fatal blow was caused not by a knockout blow inflicted by [the defendant] Roberts, but by a fall on to the ropes in the effort of the deceased victim, by throwing himself back, to avoid a blow" (*R v Roberts and others*, June 29, 1901).

The facts are, of course, distinguishable from the current controversy, but the jury's verdicts in answer to the specific questions formulated by the trial judge were: accident; lawful boxing match as distinct from illegal prize-fighting; not guilty of manslaughter.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
EDWARD GRAYSON,
4 Paper Buildings,
Temple, EC4.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5211. They must include a daytime telephone number.

هكذا من الاصل

Richards rules out One Man from Gold Cup party

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

ONE MAN, the Desert Orchid look-alike and chasing hope of the North, will miss next week's Cheltenham Gold Cup after losing a fitness battle.

The Gordon Richards-trained grey, who made such an impact when winning the Hennessy Gold Cup at Newbury in November, fell in his two subsequent races, including the Racing Post Chase 12 days ago and still has heat in a leg after his crashing fall at Kempton.

John Hales, owner of the seven-year-old, decided yesterday to pull the 14-1 shot out of the Gold Cup after talking with Richards. "He is perfectly sound and is not lame in any way. But with the heat in his leg it was impossible to get the work into him to send him to Cheltenham 100 per cent fit. Obviously I am disappointed but we will now aim him for the Martell Cup at Liverpool.

"He is still only a young horse and Gordon has always told me to watch out for him when he was an eight-year-old," Hales added.

Joanie Richards, wife of the Greystoke trainer, said: "The horse is 99 per cent right after his recent fall but you need to be 110 per cent for the Gold Cup. Because of the weather we have been unable to get a gallop into him and that, combined with the possibility of heavy ground, forced us to make the decision."

The defection of fancied runners during the build-up to Cheltenham is all part and parcel of the Festival tradition, along with bookmakers taking a "view" about a particular horse. Yesterday it was the turn of Corals to decide that Danoli is the horse to beat in a fascinating Smurfit Champion Hurdle and they have him their new 7-2 favourite.

"There has been money around for him, but it is more a case of Corals taking a view. Given the likely conditions, we can see only two horses starting as favourite — Danoli and Relkeel," Rob Hartnett, the bookmaker's spokesman, explained.

"Danoli has proven himself at the highest level of competition whereas Relkeel hasn't. He has shown he has great potential but it is sometimes a difficult bridge to cross going from potential to champion and we want to stay one step ahead of the game."

Large Action was beaten comprehensively on very testing ground at Liverpool last year and with the going next Tuesday likely to be no better than soft, the Oliver Sherwood-trained hurdler has been eased half a point to 4-1, the same price as Relkeel. Fortune And Fame and Alderbrook are 6-1.

Dermot Weld, trainer of Fortune And Fame, confirmed yesterday that Vintage Crop is highly unlikely to line up given the likely conditions.

Philip Arkwright, clerk of the course at Cheltenham, said yesterday: "We had a nice, drying morning, but then had a hailstorm which put us right back to where we were. The going on the Old Course for next Tuesday and Wednesday's racing is soft with heavy patches. On the New Course, for Thursday, it is heavy."

The expected ground conditions should be perfect for a majority of the large Irish contingent of horses and Corals yesterday offered odds on the number of Irish-trained winners — with four being 3-1 favourite. Corals bet no wins 16-1, one win 6-1, two wins 9-2, three wins 7-2, four wins 3-1, five wins 9-2, six wins 10-1, seven wins 16-1, eight wins 33-1, nine wins 100-1.

Corals have also opened a book on the Ritz Club Trophy, awarded to the leading jockey at Cheltenham. Jamie Osborne is 9-4 favourite. Adrian Maguire is 11-4, Charlie Swan is 5-1 to complete a treble, the same price is offered against Richard Dunwoody.

RICHARD EVANS

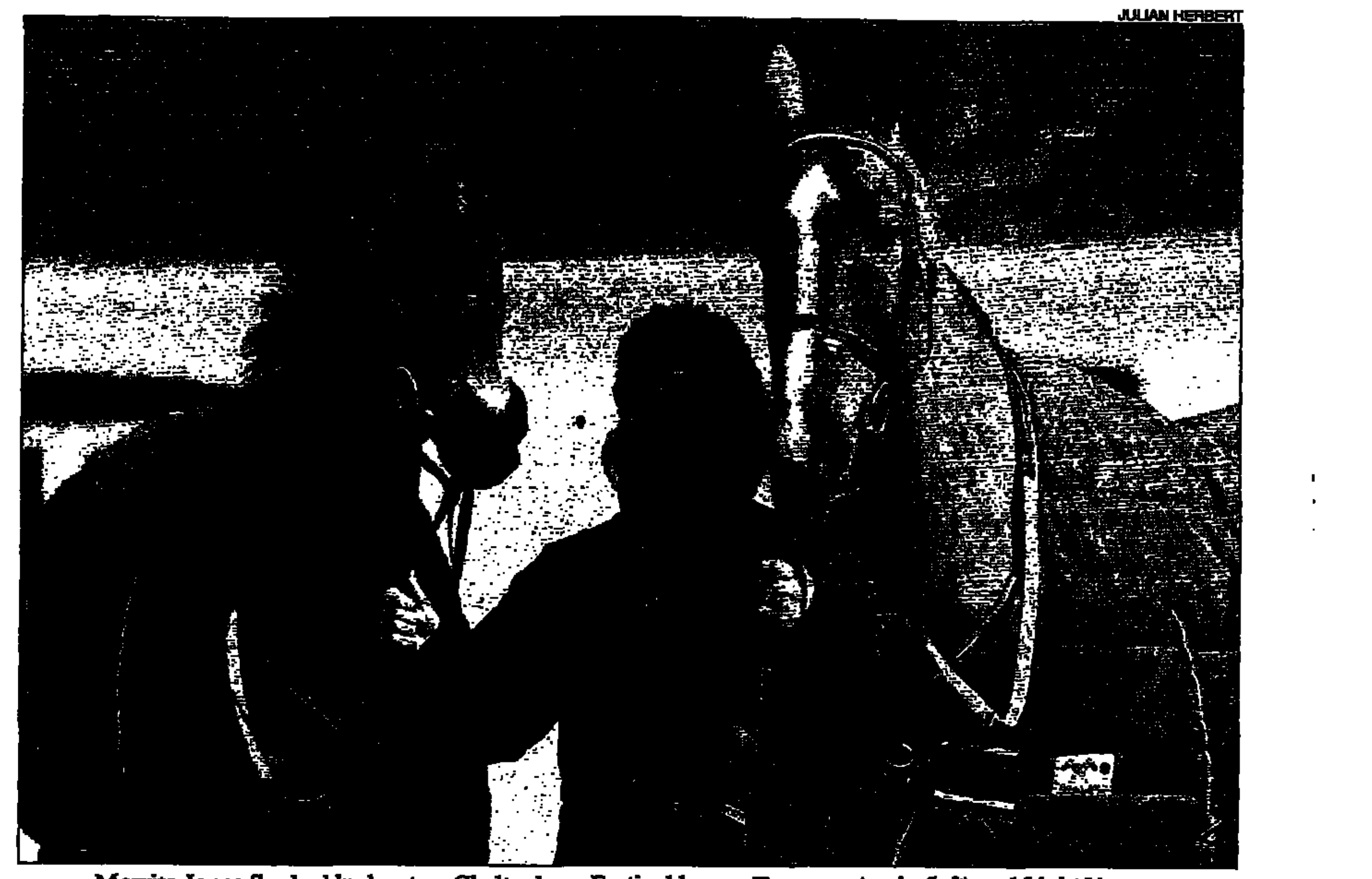
Nap: MR FLANAGAN
(3.30 Wincanton)

Next best: Orswell Lad
(4.30 Wincanton)

Jones hoping to keep up with elite

By Julian Muscat

JULIAN HERBERT



Merrita Jones flanked by her two Cheltenham Festival hopes, Treasure Again (left) and Light Veneer

The lazy lanes of Lambourn are not swamped by rain water alone. Expectation has now overtaken this Berkshire village, where the roost is ruled by trainers of great standing. If Bailey, Sherwood and Henderson bear the brunt of those expectations, Merrita Jones will be travelling to Cheltenham much more in hope.

It was ever thus for the former event rider. Faced, as she put it, with "having to go out to work after my riding days were over", she has come a long way since 1979, when she established a livery business in Lambourn. For hers has already been a journey beyond expectation, influenced as much by forged friendships as her own ambition.

Treasure Again is a case in point. The six-year-old, victorious on his last two starts, resulted from the promise of some family friends in Wales. John Hugo Gwynne heads a partnership that helped to tempt Jones into a full-time training career. Together, they now head for the EBF Novices' Hurdle Final at Cheltenham tomorrow week.

It is 18 months since Jones, 42, exchanged her permit for the rigours of a public licence. If, over that time, her optimism remains infectious, the economics of running a stable dictate that she must now risk everything. She is to invest the capital from two decades of successful business into the extremely shaky commodity of horseflesh.

No other avenue is open to her. Decidedly absent from her repertoire is the bluster with which most trainers recruit their owners. This inability to bluff her way through betrays the fact that Jones does not descend from racing stock. Attracted, initially, by a love of horses, she now craves success as to the manor born.

The process starts in the Kim Muir Chase at Cheltenham on Wednesday. Much though Jones would savour a winner in the family silks, she has leased Light Veneer to David Kay Racing for the day.

Racegoers have learned to respect the Jones runners. Subject to the weights rising, they will recognise the booking of Tony Martin, a leading Irish amateur rider, for what it is worth.

Jones will realise a long-held ambition as she saddles Light Veneer, her first runner at the Festival. But her horizons have long since expanded. "I can probably survive on the 12 horses I have, but I won't carry on if it's to be like that," she insists. "It's a very exciting time even though the odds are stacked against me. If it doesn't come off ... well, at least I'll have tried. I can always go and work in Woolworths."

It should not come to that. Her husband, Louis, provides the primary income through his Lambourn Paper Bedding company. However, having brought up two daughters, there is no lack of determination in her second full-time career.

"It's certainly been a busy life, what with having to feed Louie and the dogs every day — and not always in that order," she says. Fortunately, Louis, a former jockey, will have known all about shortages of food.

The odds must favour Jones making a decent fist of it. There is no concession to sloppiness. The small team of staff is headed by "Bandy" Bobby Burrows, for 12 years a lad with Fred Winter, whose horses Jones once catered for at livery.

Then there are equine shopping trips to Ireland. And the successful jockey Graham Bradley would surely not present himself for regular schooling sessions at Stork House unless part of the future lay within its walls. For the Joneses, there will be no family picnic at the Cheltenham Festival on Wednesday.

WINCANTON

THUNDERER

2.00 Teinein
2.30 Landsker Missile
3.00 Southampton
3.30 Sunley Bay
4.00 Mr Murdock
4.30 RAGTIME BOY (nap)
5.00 Tread The Boards

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.00 **MR MURDOCK**.

Brian Beel: 4.00 Upham Close.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY PATCHES) SIS

2.00 SEAVINGTON MAIDEN HURDLE (Div I: £2,600: 2m) (19 runners)

101 0/F0 AVENUE FOCH 103 (P O'Donnell) F Murphy 6-11-4 ... M Foster –
102 P0 BALDHU CHANCE 56 (T Long) R Hodges 7-11-4 ... I Lawrence 63
103 CASTLE CAVALIER 800F (Lady Mary Mumford) Lady Herries 7-11-4 ... E Murphy –
104 0P-P DAYTIME BOMBER 121 (P Oppenheimer) D Marks 5-11-4 ... J A McCarthy –
105 0052/63- KATIE'S JOKER 98 (J Russell) O O'Neill 9-11-4 ... M A Fitzgerald 95
106 50 KILMINGTON 58 (H Pelham) J Gifford 6-11-4 ... P Hide 81
107 300/6P0- LIBERTY JAMES 437 (Mrs J Brooks) Mrs E Brooks 8-11-4 ... Mr David Jones 74
108 MIDNIGHT HOUR (S Clarke) M Pipe 5-11-4 ... R Dunwoody –
109 60 MUCH SOUGHT AFTER 84 (The MISA Partnership) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-4 C Llewellyn 69
110 20/64- TANGO'S DELIGHT 407 (Mrs M Harman) D Elsworth 7-11-4 ... P Holley 88
111 P ZONK 35F (B Barnard) R Frost 5-11-4 ... J Frost –
112 P0 BOBBIE DEE 73 (Mrs N Dutfield) Mrs P Dutfield 5-10-13 ... A McCabe –
113 30 SKY BURST 29 (Mrs D Jenks) L Cottrell 5-10-13 ... Mr L Jefford (7) 93
114 BLAIR CASTLE 202F (Highflyers) G Balding 4-10-10 ... A P McCoy –
115 DINO MALTA 64 (Lady Harris) D Nicholson 4-10-10 ... A Maguire –
116 ROI DE LA MER 140F (Foundation Developments Ltd) J Akehurst 4-10-10 G Bradley –
117 SEMINOLE WIND 223F (The Hole In The Wall Gang) C Barwell 4-10-10 ... B Clifford –
118 SWEET TRENTINO 8F (Hegley and Callow Oils Ltd) C Smith 4-10-10 ... B Powell –
119 5 TEINEIN 30 (S Sainsbury) T Forster 4-10-10 ... R Farrant 97

BETTING: 2-1 Midnight Hour, 7-2 Castle Cavalier, 7-1 Teinein, 8-1 Blair Castle, 10-1 Sweet Trentino, 12-1 Katie's Joker, 14-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

KATIE'S JOKER 11l 4th of 12 to Fourth In Line in novice hurdle at Windsor (2m, good). KILMINGTON 13¾l 5th of 14 to More Dash Thancash in novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good) on penultimate start. MUCH SOUGHT AFTER about 33½l 6th of 10 to Billygoat Gruff in novice hurdle at Nottingham (2m 5f 110yd, good) on penultimate start. TANGO'S DELIGHT about 14l 4th of 16 to Mames Boy in novice hurdle at Lingfield (2m 110yd, heavy) January 1994. SKY BURST 3¼l 3rd of 9 to Stir Fry in novice hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, soft) on penultimate start. DINO MALTA 6l 3rd of 17 to D'Auteuil in novice chase at Pau (2m 1f, soft). TEINEIN about 12¼l 5th of 15 to Stompin in novice hurdle at Warwick (2m, soft)
Selection: KATIE'S JOKER

2.30 BROADSTONE NOVICES CHASE (£3,457: 2m 5f) (10 runners)

201 5-FPPFU ANSTEY GADABOUT 7 (B) (D Bassett) D Bassett 9-11-4 ... W McFarland –
202 6-522P0 BEAUREPAIRE 55 (Pell-mell Partners) R Alner 7-11-4 ... B Powell –
203 60/U6-UP CANTORIS FRATER 128 (The Lay Partnership) Mrs J Pitman 8-11-4 W Marston –
204 00-5PP I'M IN CLOVER 52 (D Peppiatt) T Thomson Jones 6-11-4 ... M A Fitzgerald –
205 223-20F MYHAMET 8 (G,S) (Superset Racing) P Hobbs 8-11-4 ... A Maguire –
206 132-U85 TEXAN BABY 69 (S) (T Dunbar) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-4 ... C Llewellyn 86
207 5/ TOE THE LINE 1069 (Lady Sarah Clutton) Lady Herries 7-11-4 ... E Murphy –
208 21/3-05R TRUTH BE TOLD 33 (S) (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 11-11-4 ... P Hide –
209 4U5434 APRIL'S BABY 57 (Miss C Caroe) Miss C Caroe 11-10-13 ... I Lawrence –
210 00-5F4 LANDSKER MISSILE 28 (Mrs J Watts) M Pipe 6-10-13 ... R Dunwoody 99

BETTING: 2-1 Landsker Missile, 5-2 Texan Baby, 7-1 Truth Be Told, 8-1 Cantoris Frater, 10-1 Myhamet, Toe The Line, 12-1 others.

1994: LADY GHISLAINE 7-11-2 A Maguire (13-8 fav) J White 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

BEAUREPAIRE best recent effort 1¾l 2nd of 13 to Turner Prize in novice handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter (3m 110yd, soft). CANTORIS FRATER last completed effort 29l 6th of 9 to Abu Muslab in novice chase at Stratford (2m 5f 110yd, good to firm) October 1993. MYHAMET best recent effort 1¼l 2nd of 8 to Eastern Pleasure in handicap hurdle at Leicester (2m 4f 110yd, heavy). TEXAN BABY 23½l 5th of 10 to Smith's Band in novice chase at Leicester (3m, good to soft). TRUTH BE TOLD 31l 5th of 8 to Cyborgo in handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m, good) on penultimate start. APRIL'S BABY 17¾l 4th of 9 to Rather Sharp in selling handicap chase at Plumpton (2m, soft). LANDSKER MISSILE 18l 4th of 14 to San Fernando in novice chase over course and distance (soft).
Selection: LANDSKER MISSILE

3.00 TOMMY WALLIS HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,591: 2m) (12 runners)

301 362211/ THINKING TWICE 502F (D,F,G) (E McGrath) N Henderson 6-11-10 M A Fitzgerald –
302 2-12145 AAL EL AAL 40 (CD,G,S) (Mrs C Hake) P Hobbs 8-11-0 ... G Tormey (5) 96
303 1P15-20 PREROGATIVE 31 (V,D,BF,S) (D Johnson) M Pipe 5-11-0 ... R Dunwoody 93
304 143F45 GROUND NUT 28 (CD,S) (Mrs R Haskins) R Buckler 5-11-0 ... B Powell 97
305 40/1032- SOOTHFAST 341 (D,S) (W Sturt) J Old 6-10-13 ... T Grantham 90
306 101-2PU BALLET ROYAL 16 (G,S) (H Manners) H Manners 6-10-11 ... M Appleby (7) 99
307 F310-04 NEMURO 28 (D,G) (W Harrison-Allan) D Elsworth 7-10-9 ... L Aspell (7) 94
308 1-00 HAROLDON 17F (CD,F) (Lamb Brook Associates) B Palling 6-10-9 ... R Farrant 82
309 0000/6F BOOKCASE 14 (D,F,G) (Adapt Ltd) D Elsworth 8-10-6 ... P Holley 84
310 4F05/6-4 DOC'S COAT 19 (D,F,G,S) (M Keating) C Wildman 10-10-6 ... A Maguire 87
311 2311P3 SOUTHAMPTON 16 (V,D,F,G,S) (Highflyers) G Balding 5-10-1 ... R Arnold 92
312 1/36453 JURZ 56 (D,G,S) (P Slade) R Hodges 7-10-0 ... W McFarland 97

Long handicap: Jurz 9-12.

BETTING: 7-2 Soothfast, 4-1 Aal El Aal, 5-1 Southampton, 7-1 Thinking Twice, 8-1 Prerogative, Bookcase, 10-1 Nemuro, 12-1 others.

1994: ARABIAN BOLD 6-12-0 J R Kavanagh (15-8) N Henderson 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

THINKING TWICE beat Bold Boss 1l in 5-runner handicap hurdle at Haydock (2m, good to firm) May 1993. AAL EL AAL best recent effort beat Hold Your Ranks 4l in handicap hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 1f, heavy). PREROGATIVE 1l 2nd of 6 to Isaiah in handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m, heavy) on penultimate start. SOOTHFAST 11l 2nd of 4 to Sun Surfer in handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, heavy) April 1994. BALLET ROYAL best effort this term ½l 2nd of 9 to Society Guest in amateur riders' handicap hurdle at Chepstow (2m 110yd, good to soft). NEMURO 3¾l 4th of 11 to Lighten-ing Lad in conditional jockeys' handicap hurdle over course and distance (soft) with GROUND NUT (1lb better off) 7l 5th. DOC'S COAT 10¾l 4th of 5 to Square Silk in handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m, heavy). SOUTHAMPTON best recent effort beat Keep Me In Mind 2½l in handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m, good) with GROUND NUT (11lb better off) 3¾l 4th and HAROLDON (13lb better off) 30¼l 9th. JURZ neck and 10l 3rd of 17 to Morstock in conditional jockeys' handicap hurdle over course and distance (good).
Selection: AAL EL AAL

3.30 WINCANTON LTD HANDICAP CHASE (£5,345: 2m 5f) (5 runners)

401 2F2F-33 ROUGH QUEST 19 (G) (A Wates) T Casey 9-11-10 ... M A Fitzgerald 99
402 5P430-0 ALL JEFF 15 (B,F,G,S) (Exors of Lady Joseph) C Brooks 11-11-10 D Gallagher 91
403 1104-52 MENEBUCK 126 (CD,F,G,S) (Lady Sarah Clutton) Lady Herries 9-11-0 E Murphy 94
404 U-321R1 MR FLANAGAN 14 (CD,G,S) (Mrs C Solman) P Nicholls 9-10-7 ... R Dunwoody 98
405 5F2152 SUNLEY BAY 14 (C,G,S) (Mrs R Stanley) C Brooks 9-10-7 ... G Bradley 98

BETTING: 6-4 Mr Flanagan, 5-2 Sunley Bay, 4-1 Menebuck, 7-1 Rough Quest, 8-1 All Jeff

1994: SMARTIE EXPRESS 12-11-5 A Maguire (5-1) R Hodges 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

ROUGH QUEST 8l 3rd of 8 to Bibendum in handicap chase at Nottingham (2m 4f, good to soft). ALL JEFF 48l 8th of 12 to Darring Valley in handicap hurdle at Folkestone. MENEBUCK 15l 2nd of 5 to Raba Riba in handicap chase over course and distance (good). MR FLANAGAN beat Edimbourg 4l in handicap chase over course and distance (soft). SUNLEY BAY 30l 2nd of 6 to Monsieur Le Cure in conditions chase here (3m 1f 110yd, soft).
Selection: MR FLANAGAN (nap)

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

4.00 DICK WOODHOUSE HUNTERS CHASE (£2,075: 3m 1f 110yd) (14 runners)

501 2-3F1 MR MURDOCK 4P (C,F,G,S) (B Heatley) H Wellstead 10-12-7 ... P Henley (7) 99
502 610-3 MY MELLOW MAN 30 (B,D,G,S) (W Gooden) W Gooden 12-12-7 Miss S Vickery (7) 89
503 3321P-3 SONOFAGIPSY 28 (D,F,G) (Mrs S Whetham) J Dufosee 11-12-7 ... M Felton (5) 86
504 052F4F- ABBOTSHAM 11P (F,G,S) (O Carter) O Carter 10-12-0 ... M Rimell (5) 89
505 F4F-P ABSOLATUM 9 (G) (P Rich) P Rich 8-12-0 ... M Daly (7) –
506 U22-4 ANDRELOT 24 (B,F,G) (H Jones) S Dooch 8-12-0 ... J Jukes (7) 85
507 PE5-P BEAR NECESSITIES 33P (D Fletcher) D Fletcher 10-12-0 ... A Milner (7) –
508 RPP3 BOOK OF RUNES 9 (G,S) (Miss Y Coleman) D Fletcher 10-12-0 C Ward Thomas (7) 80
509 U0032-4- OLD STEINE 482 (Miss L Morgan) K Smith 7-12-0 ... S Shinton (7) –
510 FP43- PYRO PENNANT 313 (Miss L Morgan) K Smith 10-12-0 ... A Price (7) –
511 SILVER STEP (S Noel) S Jones 9-12-0 ... B Norris (7) –
512 PP SWAN'S APPROACH 882 (Mrs E Jacobs) S Jacobs 12-12-0 ... Michael Traurig (5) –
513 232/U30- TAMAR LASS 259P (G,S) (C de Pledge) Mrs J de Pledge 10-11-9 D E Stephens (7) 83
514 0,34/3- UPHAM CLOSE 383P (F,G,S) (R Hand) Mrs M Hand 9-11-9 ... Mrs A Hand (7) –

BETTING: 7-2 Mr Murdock, 4-1 Sonofagipsy, Abbotsham, 5-1 Upham Close, 8-1 Andrelot, Tamar Lass, 12-1 My Mellow Man, 20-1 others.

1994: SYNDERBOROUGH LAD 8-11-7 Mr M Felton (6-1) S Pike 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

MR MURDOCK beat Woodbury Fair 6l in 11-runner open at Milborne St Andrew (3m, good to soft). MY MELLOW MAN 55l 3rd of 5 to Double Silk in amateur riders' hunter chase at Warwick (3m 2f, good to soft). SONOFAGIPSY 25l 3rd of 13 to Espy in amateur riders' hunter chase over course and distance (soft). BOOK OF RUNES 23l 3rd of 20 to Proud Sun in amateur riders' hunter chase at Nottingham (3m 110yd, good to soft) with ABSOLATUM 50l 8th. OLD STEINE 15¾l 4th of 5 to Fuzzy Logic in novice hurdle at Cheltenham (3m 2f, good) November 1993. TAMAR LASS beat Pharaoh Blue 3l in 6-runner ladies open at Lemalla (3m, good) May 1994. UPHAM CLOSE 10¾l 3rd of 7 to Sunny Mount in amateur riders' hunter chase over course and distance (good to soft) on penultimate start, February 1994
Selection: SONOFAGIPSY

4.30 SPARKFORD HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,338: 2m 6f) (14 runners)

601 453-145 ORSWELL LAD 28 (S) (R Wright) P Hobbs 6-11-11 ... M Moran (7) 84
602 35-0302 WARFIELD 20 (CD,S) (C Lewis) P Nicholls 8-11-9 ... R Dunwoody 84
603 21103U STAR MOVER 7 (G,S) (Julian Graves Ltd) C Smith 6-11-9 ... Mr P Hanly (7) 92
604 331060- ST VILLE 341 (D,G,S) (Uptiplash Racing) R Buckler 9-11-7 ... G Supple (7) 94
605 3-46U36 LESBET 29 (B,D,F,G,S) (Mrs L Carlson) R Frost 10-11-2 ... J Frost 94
606 056033 J BRAND 14 (G,S) (T Pasquale) R Hodges 8-11-1 ... J Harris (7) 86
607 05650-0 PRINCE TEETON 73 (Mrs S Richards) R Buckler 6-10-10 ... B Powell 85
608 52P0-0U ANILAFFED 20 (V,D,S) (Mrs S McLean) J Akehurst 5-10-10 ... J Osborne 99
609 54-UPP3 BOURNEL 28 (B) (N Bowden) C Barwell 7-10-10 ... Mr Richard White (7) 97
610 4203P3 RAGTIME BOY 56 (V) (Mrs J Clarke) C Barwell 7-10-8 ... M A Fitzgerald 84
611 46060-U SIR CRUSTY 7 (F,G,S) (T Jones) O O'Neill 13-10-7 ... P Maddock (7) 92
612 0P51-00 THE JET SET 8 (S) (R Boulden) Mrs H Parrott 8-10-4 ... V Slattery 80
613 P-P3P30 MILDRED SOPHIA 8 (S) (N Mitchell) N Mitchell 8-10-0 ... Miss S Mitchell (7) 80
614 00050P DONT RISE ME 24 (M Churches) M Churches 6-10-0 ... Mr J Culloty (7) –

Long handicap: Mildred Sophia 9-5, Dont Rise Me 8-12.

BETTING: 3-1 Warfield, 5-1 Orswell Lad, J Brand, 7-1 Ragtime Boy, 8-1 Bournel, 10-1 Star Mover, 16-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

ORSWELL LAD 10l 5th of 11 to Jibber The Kibber in auction novice hurdle over course and distance (soft). WARFIELD 3l 2nd of 9 to Jadidh in conditional jockeys' handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 6f, heavy) with ANILAFFED (10lb better off) unseated rider last. STAR MOVER 15l 3rd of 14 to Rich Desire in handicap hurdle at Ludlow (2m 5f 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start, with LESBET (3lb better off) 40l 6th. ST VILLE 30l 7th of 9 to Northants in handicap hurdle at Wetherby (3m 1f, soft) February 1994. J BRAND 12l 3rd of 14 to King's Cross in handicap hurdle here (2m, soft). PRINCE TEETON 9¾l 8th of 17 to Morstock in novices' handicap hurdle here (2m, good). BOURNEL 2¼l 3rd of 20 to Landsker Pryde in novice hurdle over course and distance (soft). RAGTIME BOY 5¾l 3rd of 19 to Oats N Barley in novices' handicap hurdle over course and distance (good).
Selection: J BRAND

5.00 SEAVINGTON MAIDEN HURDLE (Div II: £2,600: 2m) (18 runners)

1 3-P640P ABAVARD 27 (S) (B King) A Forte 6-11-4 ... M A Fitzgerald –
2 U0- DARING KING 302 (Classe Stables) M Bolton 5-11-4 ... P Hide –
3 0/44-50 GWEEBARRA BAY 19 (G Ham) G Ham 6-11-4 ... G Upton 99
4 5-PP533 IL BAMBINO 29 (H Manners) H Manners 7-11-4 ... M Appleby (7) 84
5 00/0F- MAC'S BOY 55F (Mrs M Palling) B Palling 6-11-4 ... R Farrant –
6 00-P MONKS JAY 82 (J Cover) G Thorner 6-11-4 ... B Powell –
7 POOH STICK (D Mutton) R Frost 5-11-4 ... J Frost –
8 00-65 VOLCANIC ROC 19 (M Dawes) G Dawes 5-11-4 ... G Tormey (5) –
9 0-0 WELSH'S GAMBLE 97 (Sir Richard Sutton) J Old 6-11-4 ... T Grantham –
10 5 WINSPIT 14 (Mrs J Purdie) R Alner 5-11-4 ... C Maude 82
11 00-0 HEPBURN 14 (B Dawes) R Brazington 7-10-13 ... W Humphreys 85
12 WHATACARRYON (Rhys Thomas Williams) F Murphy 6-10-13 ... S Burrough –
13 BITE THE BULLET 825F (T Couchman) D Nicholson Davis 4-10-10 ... C Wright (7) –
14 0 PLATINI 30 (Highflyers) G Balding 4-10-10 ... A P McCoy –
15 RAGAMUFF (Mrs P Wilkins) P Hobbs 4-10-10 ... Mr S Mulcaire (7) –
16 REALITY PARK 211F (P Jones) P Jones 4-10-10 ... Mr J Culloty (7) –
17 05 SUMMERHILL SPECIAL 68 (Mrs N Dutfield) Mrs P Dutfield 4-10-5 ... P Holley –
18 TREAD THE BOARDS 155F (D Johnson) M Pipe 4-10-5 ... R Dunwoody –

BETTING: 6-4 Tread The Boards, 8-1 Welsh's Gamble, Gweebarra Bay, 10-1 Il Bambino, Pooh Stick, 12-1 Ragamuff, 14-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

ABAVARD best effort this term 13½l 4th of 9 to Spring Saint in novices' handicap hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, heavy). DARING KING best effort last season led when unseated rider 3 out in juvenile hurdle won by Giordano at Towcester (2m, soft). GWEEBARRA BAY 43l 8th of 21 to Glanmerin in novice hurdle at Nottingham (2m, soft). IL BAMBINO 5l 3rd of 20 to Daily Sport Girl in selling handicap hurdle at Ludlow (2m, good to soft). VOLCANIC ROC 65l 5th of 8 to Treasure Again in novice hurdle at Chepstow (2m 110yd, heavy). WINSPIT 42½l 5th of 21 to Slew Man in maiden hurdle over course and distance (soft). PLATINI 58l 9th of 15 to Storepin in juvenile hurdle at Warwick (2m, soft). SUMMERHILL SPECIAL 42l 5th of 10 to Clifton Beat in juvenile hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, heavy). TREAD THE BOARDS completed double beat Fox Sparrow 1l in handicap at York (1m 2f 110yd, soft) on the Flat in October 1994.
Selection: DARING KING

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Lady Herries	3	7	42.9	R Dunwoody	34	158	21.5
Mrs J Pitman	22	72	30.6	G Bradley	8	41	19.5
M Pipe	36	132	27.3	J Osborne	12	70	17.1
C Brooks	6	32	18.8	D Gallagher	4	24	16.7
D Nicholson	10	55	18.2	C Llewellyn	10	71	14.1
N Twiston-Davies	8	44	18.2	W McFarland	4	29	13.8

□ Celtic Swing was among seven horses added to the list of entries for the Derby yesterday. Connections of last season's top juvenile paid the £6,000 required at the second entry stage for the Vodafone-sponsored classic at Epsom on June 10. But the Henry Cecil-trained Eltish, one of the market leaders in the Derby betting last year, will not be making the trip to Epsom. His owner, Khaled Abdulla, has decided that he will instead be prepared for the 1¼-mile Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs on May 6.

New issue finds security in backing Celtic Swing

Richard Evans discovers a near-certainty unveiled in the latest *Timeform* annual

The telephone rings. "This is Ladbrokes, John speaking. How can I help you?"

"The account number is UYA37108 and my name is Leeson."

"Yes, Mr Leeson, go ahead please."

"I believe you are offering 9-4 against Celtic Swing winning the 2,000 Guineas, 7-2 against him in the Derby and 5-1 against the double."

"Yes sir, that is correct."

"In which case I would like to have £40 million to win at 9-4 in the 2,000 Guineas, £40 million at 7-2 in the Derby and a £20 million double."

"Is that all?" (For some reason the helpful credit account telephonists at Ladbrokes always ask that question). "With tax, that is £110 million. Thank you for calling Ladbrokes."

Just one telephone call. That is all it would have taken — plus a copy of *Timeform's* recently published *Racehorses of 1994* — and Nick Leeson would not be eating yoghurt in a German police cell and Barings would not be going Dutch.

Compared to the high risks apparently posed by derivatives, an investment in the Peter Savill-owned and Lady Herries-trained Celtic Swing is as safe as .... well, the Bank of England. At least, that is the view of the sages from Halifax, who have rarely been so adamant about the qualities and potential of one racehorse.

Of course, the master punters at *Timeform* are not so naive as to think that Celtic Swing defies the theory that there is no such thing as a racing certainty, and to prove the point they preface their essay on Celtic Swing with a wonderful story involving the disqualification of two point-to-pointers. Both horses were presented with walk-overs but stewards withdrew the race from the first at Tweseldown after he failed to be in the paddock on time; and disqualified the second at Blankney Hunt after his jockey failed to weigh in!

"Notwithstanding the lessons of these cautionary tales," *Timeform* continues "if ever the words 'looks a foregone conclusion' can be justified about horse races still many months ahead, then they can about the 1995 2,000 Guineas and Derby. If Celtic Swing keeps clear of injury, we can see nothing to beat him in either race."

In many ways the five pages devoted to Celtic Swing's exploits last summer epitomise the annuals produced by *Timeform*. A horse's performance is interpreted, rather than just presented, in a stylish manner with conclusions that are often invaluable to the serious punter.

In the battle against bookmakers, the importance of accurate information and sound interpretation is crucial and explains the success and authority of the company established by Phil Bull. Unlike the lottery, where your chances of winning the jackpot are 13,983,816-1, it is possible to make money betting on horses and yet, as the latest *Racehorses* annual points out, it is an area which the British Horseracing Board [BHB] has shunned when promoting racing.

"Racing can get mileage from the fact that it is a gambling medium that gives the punter a fair chance of beating the odds in the long run if he's skilful enough. The possibility of profit is the strongest motivation for all forms of gambling. That betting on horse racing — for those who acquire the necessary knowledge, skill and judgment — offers such prospects of real profits is a large part of its appeal.

"Disappointingly, this particular advantage of racing was not even touched upon in the BHB's first marketing plan."

Timeform is absolutely right. All too often BHB officials seem rather embarrassed by betting, unless it is mentioned in the context of how much levy will be raised. With the rest of the nation being urged to have a punt every Saturday on the Lottery, racing's leaders should emphasise the appeal of betting on horses. One thing is certain: backing Celtic Swing at 9-4 is better than going for a touch on derivatives.

TOWCESTER

THUNDERER

2.20 Monokratic. 2.50 Time Enough. 3.20 Musical Monarch. 3.50 Tamergale. 4.20 Veleda II. 4.50 Sunny Mount.

Brian Beel: 4.50 Espy.

GOING: HEAVY SIS

2.20 WEATHERBYS NEWCOMERS SERIES CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,163: 3m) (10 runners)

1 1306 SAME DIFFERENCE 88 (D,G,S) A Jarvis 7-11-11 P Morris (3) 93
2 F320 APACHE PRINCE 56 (B) C Mann 8-11-8 ... Guy Lewis 97
3 1P MONOKRATIC 33 (S) Mrs S Bramall 6-11-7 ... J Burke 96
4 4646 HOLY STING 19 N Twiston-Davies 6-11-3 ... T Jenks 99
5 3455 RAMSTAR 87 (S) C Mann 7-11-3 ... E Tolhurst (7) 93
6 00-2 COLETTE'S CHOICE 24 (BF) G Ham 6-10-13 ... D Fortt 88
7 0010 TITAN EMPRESS 29 (S) S Mellor 6-10-13 ... Chris Webb (3) 98
8 P-30 LAW FACULTY 50 G Ham 6-10-0 ... R Massey 97
9 P55/ COURAGEOUS BIDDER 1842 J White 10-10-0 P McLoughlin –
10 PFP COPPER PAN 14 J Hubby 8-10-0 ... D Walsh –

5-2 Colette's Choice, 4-1 Same Difference, 5-1 Holy Sting, 6-1 others.

2.50 ALFORDSHIRE NOVICES CHASE (£2,861: 2m 110yd) (6)

1 0-06 FOGELBERG 7 (B) K Bridgwater 7-11-2 ... D Bridgwater –
2 PB PRECISION PROMISE 35 D McCain 8-11-2 ... D McCain (5) –
3 205P SUNGIA 19 K Bridgwater 6-11-2 ... J Lodder 79
4 6P-0 TIME ENOUGH 112 C Brooks 6-11-2 ... Mr E James –
5 3R20 ALAMO SCOUT 12 P Burgoyne 6-10-11 ... I Lawrence 99
6 20-0 NOMADIC FIRE 49 J Mullins 5-10-8 ... L Harvey –

6-4 Time Enough, 2-1 Alamo Scout, 5-1 Nomadic Fire, 8-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Miss C Saunders, 8 winners from 14 runners, 57.1%; O Brennan, 21 from 88, 23.9%; J Spearing, 3 from 13, 23.1%; C Brooks, 5 from 26, 19.2%; K Bridgwater, 5 from 28, 17.9%; P Dalton, 5 from 28, 17.9%.

JOCKEYS: J Burke, 3 winners from 6 rides, 50.0%; Mr J Greenall, 3 from 7, 42.9%; N Williamson, 9 from 63, 14.3%; D Bridgwater, 10 from 74, 13.5%; M Richards, 5 from 39, 12.8%; G McCourt, 4 from 32, 12.5%.

3.20 SWAN NATIONAL HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,020: 2m) (5)

1 4103 MUSICAL MONARCH 40 (G,S) O Sherwood 9-11-10 ... M Richards 90
2 121U NAMASTE 1 (D,G,S) R Hoad 7-11-10 ... – 99
3 6421 ZEALOUS KITTEN 21 (CD,G,S) R Price 7-11-6 R Massey (5) 91
4 3411 MARINER'S AIR 16 (CD,S) J Spearing 8-11-3 .. N Williamson 96
5 0215 FOX CHAPEL 19 (B,D,G,S) R Juckes 8-10-8 ... N Juckes (7) 92

2-1 Mariner's Air, 9-4 Musical Monarch, 3-1 Namaste, 7-2 Zealous Kitten, 4-1 Fox Chapel.

3.50 HOECHST PANACUR EBF MARES NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (Qualifier: £2,798: 2m 5f) (7)

1 5412 TAMERGALE 14 (S) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-0 ... D Bridgwater 98
2 -024 CAILIN GLAS 8 J Jefferson 6-10-7 ... M Dwyer 93
3 46 FLOW 8 R Buckler 6-10-7 ... S McNeill 88
4 R PENDIL'S DELIGHT 30 Mrs D Haine 6-10-7 ... J F Titley –
5 2-22 POPPEA 24 T Forster 6-10-7 ... G McCourt 99
6 -506 STICKY MONEY 28 M Pipe 7-10-7 ... J Lower 74
7 -42P TARTAN MOSS 28 P Hobbs 6-10-7 ... Peter Hobbs –

2-1 Tamergale, 9-4 Tartan Moss, 5-2 Poppea, 5-1 Cailin Glas, 10-1 Flow, 14-1 Sticky Money, 20-1 Pendil's Delight.

4.20 SWAN NATIONAL HANDICAP CHASE (£3,673: 3m 1f) (7)

1 2126 TORT 52 (CD,G,S) P Dalton 11-12-0 ... N Williamson 99
2 P3-2 VELEDA II 132 (F,G,S) Mrs S Bramall 8-11-10 ... J Burke 78
3 42-P THE MOTCOMBE OAK 42 (S) P Hobbs 9-11-4 .. Peter Hobbs 86
4 3F02 MICKLUP 14 (S) T Forster 8-10-12 ... J R Kavanagh 95
5 1013 WOODLANDS BOY 1 (B,F,S) R Hoad 7-10-8 ... – 92
6 4242 SUNBEAM TALBOT 19 (CD,G,S) A Jones 14-10-0 . S McNeill 98
7 16-5 TRY NEXT DOOR 117 (S) O Brennan 8-10-0 ... J F Titley 85

3-1 Veleda II, 7-2 Tort, Micklup, 4-1 Woodlands Boy, 5-1 Sunbeam Talbot, 12-1 Try Next Door, 20-1 The Motcombe Oak.

4.50 JOHN WRATHALL MEMORIAL HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,576: 3m 1f) (4)

1 6-13 ESPY 20 (D,F,G,S) C Brooks 12-12-5 ... E James (7) 99
2 211- SUNNY MOUNT 314 (D,F,G,S) Miss C Saunders 9-12-5 ... J Greenall 97
3 3U-3 NICK THE BRIEF 33 (D,F,G,S) J Upson 13-11-12 T Byrne (5) 96
4 511- ROBIN OF SHERWOOD 334P (G,S) K Pearce 13-11-12 ... D S Jones (7) –

4-5 Espy, 11-8 Sunny Mount, 16-1 Nick The Brief, 20-1 Robin Of Sherwood.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Wincanton: 4.30 Bournel, Lesbet.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Folkestone

Going: soft (chase course); heavy (hurdles)

1.50 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Alice's Mirror (D Bridgwater, 11-10 fav; Richard Evans's nap); 2, Flaming Sands (50-1); 3, Gameful Gold (6-1). 10 ran. 11l, 1¾l. T McGovern. Tote: £1.90; £1.50, £21.30, £2.80. DF £73.00. CSF: £42.79.

2.20 (3m 2f ch) 1, Full Of Oats (J Osborne, 2-1 jt-fav); 2, Terao (11-4); 3, Woodlands Boy (2-1 jt-fav). 5 ran. NR: Sunset Again. 6l, dist. Miss H Knight. Tote: £2.50; £1.30, £1.50. DF: £5.30. CSF: £7.29.

2.50 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Shoofk (R Dunwoody, 4-5 fav; Thunderer's nap and Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Miss Haggis (8-1); 3, Arley (6-1). 9 ran. NR: Conwell Quick Step, Forge Gold. 6l, 4l. S Dow. Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £2.40, £1.90. DF: £8.30. CSF: £8.41.

3.20 (2m ch) 1, Pats Minstrel (A Maguire, 15-8). Finished alone. Nemacle 11-8 fav (ur). 4 ran. NR: Nadir Samurai, Ricker Champion. Tote: £2.40. DF (winner with any other horse): £1.10. CSF (winner with any other horse): £2.59.

3.50 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Moynsha House (E Murphy, 6-4 fav); 2, Vaiiro (25-1); 3, Cheveley Dancer (13-8). 8 ran. NR: Cobb Gate, Inchydoney Boy. 15l, 14l. B Curley. Tote: £2.70; £1.20, £4.00, £1.50. DF: £22.80. Trio: £53.40. CSF: £33.31. Tricast: £65.93.

4.20 (3m 2f ch) 1, Diamond Fort (S McNeill, 9-2); 2, Catchapenny (5-1); 3, Leagaune (5-2 fav). 5 ran. NR: Monksander, Wilkie Gale. 1¼l, 20l. J McConnochie. Tote: £5.90; £1.90, £2.10. DF: £5.10. CSF: £21.44.

4.50 (2m 1f 110yd flat race) 1, Dantes Cavalier (D Leahy, 6-4 fav); 2, Glengarra Girl (5-1); 3, Farleyer Rose (40-1). 19 ran. NR: Singsby. 1l, 13l. D Gandolfo. Tote: £2.50; £1.10, £3.10, £5.70. DF: £7.20. CSF: £11.15.

Jackpot: £903.30.

Placepot: £34.50. Quadpot: £14.80.

The meeting at Carlisle today has been abandoned because of snow. A heavy fall on Tuesday night left a two-inch covering on the course, prompting stewards to bring forward yesterday's inspection from 4pm to midday. Prospects for the rest of the week are brighter with the forecast good for Sandown tomorrow and Saturday.

Wolverhampton

Going: standard

2.10 (6f) 1, Ziggy's Dancer (D Holland, 3-1 jt-fav); 2, The Old Chapel (10-1); 3, Green's Bid (25-1). Lady Roxanne 3-1 jt-fav. 9 ran. 3½l, 2¼l. E Alston. Tote: £3.90; £1.70, £2.70, £9.40. DF: £15.70. Trio: £244.00. CSF: £30.89. Tricast: £585.75.

2.40 (1m 100yd) 1, Allemande (L Dettori, 4-7 fav; Newmarket Correspondent's nap); 2, Tatika (7-1); 3, Howqua River (14-1). 13 ran. 1¼l, 8l. J Gosden. Tote: £1.70; £1.10, £1.50, £2.40. DF: £3.00. CSF: £6.52.

3.10 (1m 100yd) 1, Our Tom (N Carlisle, 4-1); 2, Renown (5-4 fav); 3, Grey Again (25-1). 6 ran. 2½l, 1¼l. J Wharton. Tote: £6.10; £2.50, £1.10. DF: £3.10. CSF: £9.36. After stewards' inquiry, result stood.

3.40 (1m 4f) 1, Johns Act (K Darley, 5-1); 2, Mad Militant (10-1); 3, Mentalasanythin (14-1). Noufari 7-2 fav. 12 ran. Sh hd, 3½l. D Haydn Jones. Tote: £8.30; £2.00, £2.90, £5.60. DF: £19.00. Trio: £166.90. CSF: £55.43. Tricast: £628.16.

4.10 (1m 1f 79yd) 1, Gallery Artist (L Dettori, 2-1 fav); 2, Swynford Flyer (4-1); 3, Eastleigh (3-1). 10 ran. 1¾l, 1¾l. R Guest. Tote: £3.80; £1.80, £1.70, £1.50. DF: £9.50. CSF: £11.47.

4.40 (5f) 1, Saddlehome (K Darley, 10-1); 2, Chadwell Hall (9-1); 3, Primula Bairn (3-1). Lord Sky 2-1 fav. 13 ran. 1¼l, 2l. T Barron. Tote: £12.80; £3.80, £3.30, £2.50. DF: £286.80. Trio: £78.40. CSF: £97.18. Tricast: £310.92.

5.10 (1m 1f 79yd) 1, No Submission (Dean McKeown, Evens fav); 2, Knsts Girl (25-1); 3, Ballyhays (33-1). 8 ran. NR: Meling. 13l, nk. D Chapman. Tote: £2.00; £1.10, £2.00, £4.60. DF: £17.40. CSF: £25.57.

5.40 (6f) 1, White Sorrel (J Stack, 4-5 fav); 2, Welley Lad (7-1); 3, Heathyards Lady (9-1). 9 ran. 8l, 1¾l. J Eyre. Tote: £1.70; £1.50, £1.90, £1.10. DF: £17.90. Trio: £39.20. CSF: £8.58. Tricast: £34.23.

Placepot: £93.30. Quadpot: £64.00 (0.4 winning tickets; pool of £51.96 carried forward to Wincanton today).

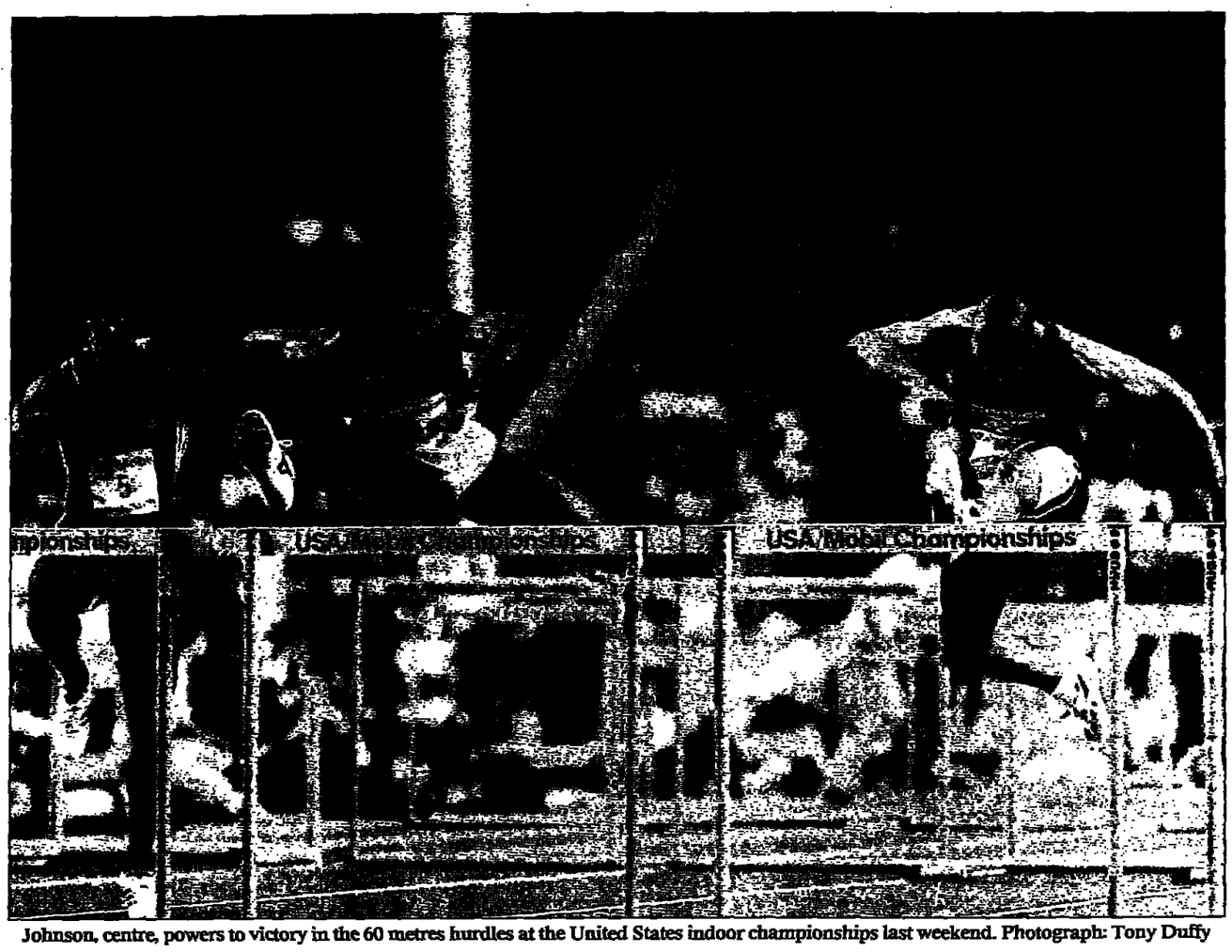
Yesterday's meeting at Catterick was abandoned because of frost.

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Johnson presents new American challenge to continued British success story

Jarrett must overcome serious hurdle

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT IN BARCELONA



Johnson, centre, powers to victory in the 60 metres hurdles at the United States indoor championships last weekend. Photograph: Tony Duffy

TEN barriers to clear, 110 metres to run, and the finishing-line only 13 seconds away, give or take a few hundredths. Everything happens in a flash in the men's sprint hurdles, but Colin Jackson's world record of 12.91sec took Allen Johnson time to digest. He watched it live, then he played it again, and again and again . . . "at least a thousand times".

The conclusion was always the same. Jackson's weakness? "I don't see one," Johnson said. He will not see one either this weekend, for Jackson is not turning up for the world indoor championships in Barcelona, which start tomorrow.

So, with CJ training in Australia, the stage is set for AJ v AJ: Allen Johnson versus Anthony Jarrett for the title of world indoor champion over the 60 metres hurdles. Nobody expects Mark McKoy, the Olympic champion, to retain his world title.

Yet there is more to it than Jarrett against Johnson. This is Great Britain versus the United States in a matter of honour. Jackson and Jarrett have been a rare intrusion on an American domination of the men's sprint hurdles that has embraced 17 of 22 Olympic titles, three out of four world outdoor titles, and three out of five world indoor titles.

"The American way is always to be No 1," Johnson said. "We as a group — myself, Tony Dees, Jack Pierce, Mark Crear, Robert Reading, Courtney Hawkins — feel one of us should be on top. We are used to being on top with the Nehemiahs, Fosters, Kingdoms and Davenports."

Johnson is the new danger man, the one whom Jackson and Jarrett must take ever so seriously this year. As the athlete who ended Jackson's 44-race winning streak last month, and who holds the fastest time of the indoor season, Johnson is probably the marginal favourite to win the gold medal in Barcelona at his first international championship. He has recorded a best of 7.38sec, compared with Jarrett's 7.42sec. He won the United States title in 7.42sec last weekend.

So, after Ben and Michael, are we about to see another world-conquering Johnson? His annual progression outdoors has been impressive: 14.11sec in 1991; 13.55sec in 1992, 13.47sec in 1993, 13.25sec in 1994. And in 1995?

"The way I have run indoors, I am expecting to run 13-zero something at least," Johnson, 24, said. "I am hoping to be a contender for the fastest time in the world outdoors and to win the outdoor world championships."

Jackson had an undefeated year at 110 metres hurdles in 1994, but Johnson said: "Beating Colin indoors gives me confidence I can beat him outdoors. Now I know that I can stick with him for the first 60 metres and that, in the next 50, I can make it a good race. But I also know that he is going to go back and train harder now to try to make sure he does not lose to me again.

"Track is my life. I love it. I think about it 24 hours a day. I try to visualise the perfect race. That is why I have watched that world-record race at least a thousand times. It is the fastest ever by any human, so obviously Colin is doing something right, and I study to see what he is doing to get there.

"His strength is his foot speed. The only way I would say someone would beat him is by hurdling a little better than him. You have to beat him coming off the hurdle, the speed with which the lead leg comes down."

Not until 1993 did Johnson, who was born in Washington and grew up in Fairfax, Virginia, begin to specialise in the sprint hurdles. Like Jackson, he had the makings of a fine decathlete (2.11 metres for the high jump; 8.14 metres for the long jump; 51.6sec for the 400 metres hurdles), but the pole vault scared him. "Too dangerous," he said.

So he divided his effort between hurdles and long jump, but persistent knee tendinitis forced a change in 1993. "I just let that go and stayed with the hurdles," Johnson said. He has also let go his other hobby, building remote-control cars, for the time being. If he is to steer his way past Jackson and Jarrett, he needs both hands firmly on a different wheel.

☐ Moses Kiptanui, the world 3,000 metres record-holder, will not compete in Barcelona this weekend because Kenya has already filled its quota of places. "It is too late to make changes," David Okeyo, the Kenya Amateur Athletics Association secretary, said.



Jarrett: gold medal hope

Kinnear confronts FA over refereeing standards

SAM HAMMAM, the owner of Wimbledon, believes that Joe Kinnear will have the support of the majority of managers in the FA Carling Premiership in his attempt to improve refereeing standards. Kinnear was dismissed from the touchline during Wimbledon's 1-0 defeat by Manchester United at Selhurst Park on Tuesday night, and is prepared to risk personal sacrifice by embarking on a campaign aimed at encouraging the Football Association to confront the matter immediately.

Kinnear is likely to face an enforced absence from the touchline in the shape of an FA ban after his latest brush with authority. He was ordered to leave the dug-out by Robbie Hart, the referee. Hammam said: "Joe Kinnear may need to be crucified to eradicate inconsistency among referees."

The Wimbledon manager is already facing an FA inquiry after an incident at Newcastle United, and Hammam said: "We do expect a disrepute charge on Joe Kinnear and I do have some concern that he will suffer in one way or another. We will deal with it in the best way that we can. We have to look at the positive side of what Joe is trying to achieve; it's in the long-term interests of football and referees.

"The real problem is not Joe Kinnear, but consistency of refereeing and the quality of officials. I can't remember a manager who hasn't complained, including highly-respected people like Kenny Dalglish [the manager at Blackburn Rovers] and Joe Royle [the Everton manager]. If Joe Kinnear is put on trial, then what will really be on trial is the FA and the consistency of referees."

Kinnear's anger was caused by the dismissal of Alan Kimble, the Wimbledon defender, for failing to retreat ten yards at a corner. It was his second bookable offence: and Kinnear's anger erupted five minutes later when Bruce scored the only goal, to take United back to the top of the Premiership. "How many times have players been sent off for being nine yards from a corner?" Hammam asked.

"Referees should be accountable and they should be helped. The FA have the power to silence Joe completely, but I think they want people like Joe Kinnear, who is trying to help referees."

Kinnear said: "Whatever happens to me, I'll continue to tell the truth the way I see it and speak out against injustices in the game. This was typical of the diabolical standards we have been suffering all season and Robbie Hart is one of the worst referees in the league, in my opinion. Time and again we've produced video evidence to show referees have made mistakes, but it is never acknowledged and we don't get back the goals and points we have lost."

Hammam would like to see better training for referees and more seminars for them to attend. He said that there was a case for a fourth official, to monitor matches on television from the stand.

The FA has received a report from its observer at the match on Tuesday. "We are now awaiting the referee's report before deciding what action, if any, to take," Mike Parry, an FA spokesman, said.

Tranmere pay for untimely defeat

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

TRANMERE Rovers have long been one of the best footballing teams outside the FA Carling Premiership and, before that, the Premier League, but they have often failed to turn that quality into points when it really mattered. Tuesday night was a case in point. Tranmere arrived at Bramall Lane with a three-point lead at the top of the Endsleigh Insurance League first division and, despite outplaying Sheffield United for long spells, left with that advantage trimmed to mere goals scored over Middlesbrough.

In addition, Sheffield's 2-0 win strengthened their challenge for at least a play-off place and Middlesbrough enjoyed a comfortable 2-0 win against Watford at Ayresome. Middlesbrough, six goals adrift in second place, have two games in hand. It was a bad night for Tranmere.

Kingsley Black, on loan from Nottingham Forest, and Nathan Blake did the damage with goals in the third and 58th minutes respectively for Sheffield United, who moved into third place, much to the delight of Dave Bassett, their manager. "We needed a victory tonight and we got it," he said. "We were a bit nervous, even when we were 1-0 up; but, in the second half, we improved. This result has kept us in contention."

John King, the Tranmere manager, was more subdued. "We got into some beautiful positions, but we needed goals and we didn't get them," he said.

Robbie Mustoe set Middlesbrough on their way with a 31st-minute goal before Uwe Fuchs, the on-loan German striker, hit his sixth goal in five games. Bryan Robson, their manager, said afterwards: "It is a nice position to be in. We have to keep on with what we believe in. Five consecutive clean sheets shows the concentration of the team. It is now important for us to maintain our run."

Burnley, who are in trouble at the bottom of the first division, had two men sent off as they went down 2-0 at Barnsley. Paul Stewart, coming towards the end of his month on loan from Liverpool, went in the 42nd minute for showing dissent, and Gary Parkinson followed him in the second half for violent conduct. Gerry Taggart and Andy Payton scored Barnsley's goals.

In the second division, Brentford took over at the top on goal difference from Huddersfield Town. Brentford earned a point in a 0-0 draw at Wrexham, while Huddersfield lost 3-1 to Oxford United.

Swansea City won the South Wales match against Cardiff City 4-1 at Vetch Field. They were 3-0 up inside 18 minutes with goals from John Williams, David Penney and Colin Pascoe. Shaun Chapple hit their fourth.

Courier's revival proceeds smoothly

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

JIM COURIER, who was the world No 1 when he won the Champions Cup in Indian Wells, California, two years ago, made a successful start to the tennis tournament this year when he beat Markus Zoecke, of Germany, 6-3, 7-5. Courier, seeded ninth and languishing at No 11 on the world list, needed only 74 minutes to dispose of Zoecke, who served eight aces.

The world's four top players — Peter Sampras, Andre Agassi, Boris Becker and Michael Chang — are all playing at Indian Wells where Courier, who won a tournament in Scottsdale, Arizona, last week, will be hoping to prove that he is still a force to be reckoned with.

"I had a wonderful off-season: I had about seven weeks where I didn't play tournaments, really didn't travel," Courier said. He has certainly come back refreshed, having won 20 out of 22 matches so far this year, two of his successes coming against France in the Davis Cup.

There were no upsets in the first round, although Stefan Edberg, who is the No 11 seed, dropped a set before moving past Davide Sanguinetti, of Italy, 6-3, 4-6, 6-3. Magnus Larsson, of Sweden, eliminated Emilio Sánchez, of Spain, 6-4, 6-2, and Patrick Rafter, of Australia, fought back strongly to get the better of Alex Corretja, of Spain, after dropping the first set 6-2.

Steffi Graf opened the defence of her title in the Delray Beach event in Florida with a 6-1, 6-4 victory over Maria Sánchez Lorenzo, of Spain. Clare Wood, of Great Britain, failed to survive the first round, being beaten 6-4, 6-3 by the Nicole Arendt, of the United States.

Graf, who was plagued by a back injury for much of the last six months of 1994, is playing in only her second event this year. Last month, she won the Paris indoor title, her first success since winning a tournament in San Diego last August.

Anke Huber won her second-round match with Radka Bobkova, of the Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-3. Although Huber has made a name for herself in the women's game, being ranked No 10 in the world, she never expects to be in the same league as her fellow German.

"I think I'm through with that comparison," Huber said. "I always said that Steffi was something special. There is simply not going to be another Graf."



Jeremy Bates, the Great Britain No 1, reached the second round of the Copenhagen Open tournament, beating Jorn Renzenbrink, of Germany, 6-2, 7-6. Danny Sapsford was defeated by Jean-Philippe Fleurian, of France, 6-3, 6-4.

Kankkunen gets back to the front

JUHA KANKKUNEN, the reigning world champion, from Finland, started well in the Portuguese rally yesterday. He opened up a lead of 12sec in his Toyota Celica by the end of the opening leg.

Kankkunen, who won the event last year, seized the initiative ahead of Carlos Sainz, of Spain, who was driving a Subaru Impreza, by winning four of the five dirt-road stages. Sainz, the winner of the Monte Carlo rally in January, finished next, one second ahead of Didier Auriol, of France, Kankkunen's teammate.

Colin McRae, of Scotland, a pre-race favourite, is 24sec adrift of the leader in fourth place. Last night, he complained bitterly about the lack of power being generated by his car.

"It's the worst engine I've ever had," he said. "It's fine on the twisty stuff, where you don't need it, but there's nothing on the straights."

Richard Burns, another Briton and the third Subaru driver, is lying in eighth place. Transmission problems cost him 1min 30sec.

The 1,055-mile race, which is due to end tomorrow, is the third round of the world championship. New rules, which limit engine power, appear to have hit Toyota hardest, with the team failing to impress in the opening two rallies. However, Kankkunen, the four-time world champion, said: "The car is much better. I'm a bit surprised to be leading."

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Cleveland 89 Detroit 81; Miami 110 La Lakers 104; New York 115 Boston 110; Phoenix 113 Houston 102; Denver 99 Dallas 96; Portland 106 Milwaukee 100; Indiana 117 San Antonio 100; Utah 102 Sacramento 95 (OT).

BOWLS

NORTHAMPTON: English women's indoor championships: Triples: Quarter-finals: Cherwell bt Taunton 24-9; Angel bt Peterborough 21-7; Darlington bt Tye Green 20-10; South Forest bt West Berks 27-14. Semi-finals: Darlington (A Anderson, M Whitton, M Shaw) bt South Forest (M Hutton, N Poole, P Oliver) 18-17 (after extra end); Cherwell (G Pepper, E Reed, B Trafford) bt Angel Tonbridge (L Dabbs, J Holyer, J Campbell) 21-11. Champion of champions: Singles: Final: N Shaw (Thornaby) bt A Hallett (Dorchester) 21-11. Unbedged pairs: Last 16: P Pond and S Sullivan (Whitelknights) bt M Parkinson and B Sullivan (Richmond) 24-10; M Boswell and L Kemp (Egerton Park) bt A Burgess and C Okell (Northaven) 24-16; M Porter and J Green (Dolphin) bt B Overton and E Crawford (Cotswold) 25-15.

CRICKET

Centenary Test match
New Zealand v South Africa
AUCKLAND (final day of five) South Africa beat New Zealand by 93 runs
SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings 294 (D J Cullinan 96; D J Nash 4-72).

Second Innings

G Kirsten c Parore b Nash	76
R Steyn c Rutherford b Patel	13
A C Hudson c Young b Patel	64
D J Cullinan c Parore b Hart	12
*W J Cronje c Hart b Larsen	101
J N Rhodes b Larsen	28
†D J Richardson not out	6
C Matthews not out	4
Extras (lb 1, nb 1)	2
Total (8 wkts dec)	308

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-41, 2-123, 3-135, 4-218, 5-277, 6-300.
BOWLING: Morrison 23-8-78-0; Nash 22-3-67-1; Patel 30-6-81-2; Larsen 18-6-31-2; Hart 12-3-50-1.
NEW ZEALAND: First innings 328 (A C Parore 89; A A Donald 4-88).

Second Innings

B A Young c Cullinan b de Villiers	4
D J Murray c Matthews b de Villiers	24
M D Crowe c Cullinan b Matthews	14
S P Fleming c Richardson b Matthews	27
*K R Rutherford c Hudson b de Villiers	56
†A C Parore c Cullinan b Ekstein	24
D N Patel run out	12
M N Hart c Richardson b de Villiers	6
G R Larsen c Richardson b Donald	1
D J Nash lbw b Matthews	6
D K Morrison not out	0
Extras (b 1, lb 4, nb 2)	7
Total	181

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-42, 3-50, 4-114, 5-146, 6-167, 7-174, 8-174, 9-178.
BOWLING: Ekstein 14-5-25-1; de Villiers 18-6-42-4; Donald 8-2-44-1; Matthews 12.5-3-47-3; Cronje 3-1-18-0.
Umpires: D Hair (Aus), S Dunn (NZ)

BOMBAY: Masters Cup: England 268-8 (D W Randall 62; M R Whitney 3-40); Australia 254. England won by 14 runs

FOOTBALL

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: Second division: Cardiff 5 Torquay 2.
Tuesday's late results
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Wimbledon 0 Manchester United 1.
ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Barnsley 2 Burnley 0; Bristol City 2 Charlton 1; Grimsby 0 Derby 1; Luton 2 Port Vale 1; Middlesbrough 2 Watford 0; Oldham 0 Southend 2; Sheffield United 2 Tranmere 0. Second division: Blackpool 2 Crewe 0; Leyton Orient 0 Brighton 3; Oxford United 3 Huddersfield 1, Peterborough 1 Shrewsbury 1; Rotherham 1 Cambridge United 0; Stockport 2 Bristol Rovers 1; Swansea 4 Cardiff 1; Wrexham 0 Brentford 0; York 1 Bournemouth 0. Postponed: Chester v Hull; Plymouth v Birmingham; Wycombe v Bradford.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brentford	34	19	6	9	64	30	63
Huddersfield	35	17	12	6	60	38	63
Birmingham	31	17	9	5	59	25	60
Crewe	33	18	5	10	59	51	59
Oxford Utd	34	17	8	9	55	40	59
Blackpool	36	17	7	12	56	52	58
Wycombe	31	15	10	6	44	34	55
Hull	32	15	8	9	52	40	53
Swansea	33	13	13	7	46	36	52
Bradford	33	14	9	10	47	45	51
Bristol Rovers	31	13	11	7	51	31	50
York	33	15	5	13	50	41	50
Stockport	34	14	6	14	48	47	48
Wrexham	32	12	11	9	52	44	47
Rotherham	33	10	11	12	42	43	41
Brighton	33	10	11	12	37	39	41
Shrewsbury	34	10	10	14	45	48	40
Peterborough	33	9	13	11	41	57	40
Cambridge Utd	34	7	12	15	47	58	33
Bournemouth	35	7	8	20	34	63	29
Plymouth	32	6	5	19	32	64	23
Cardiff	33	6	7	20	33	58	25
Leyton Orient	33	5	7	21	25	53	22
Chester	34	5	8	22	28	65	20

THIRD DIVISION: Mansfield 1 Rochdale 1; Northampton 0 Bury 5; Torquay 2 Scarborough 1; Walsall 4 Hartlepool 1. Postponed: Gillingham v Colchester.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carlisle	31	21	8	2	53	19	71
Chesterfield	31	16	9	6	43	29	57
Walsall	28	16	8	4	53	28	56
Mansfield	32	16	5	11	65	43	53
Bury	28	15	7	6	44	20	52
Doncaster	31	13	9	9	40	26	48
Colchester	31	13	9	10	40	44	47
Fulham	31	11	13	7	44	37	46
Preston	31	13	7	11	40	33	46
Scunthorpe	31	13	5	13	49	43	44
Barnet	30	12	7	11	36	41	43
Torquay	32	11	9	12	43	48	42
Lincoln	30	11	7	12	37	36	40
Wigan	30	11	7	13	44	47	39
Rochdale	30	10	8	12	35	50	38
Darlington	30	10	6	14	35	40	36
Hereford	32	9	9	16	34	53	32
Exeter	30	8	7	15	28	48	31
Northampton	32	6	10	16	32	51	28
Gillingham	30	7	6	17	31	48	27
Hartlepool	31	6	8	17	26	53	26
Scarborough	30	5	7	18	33	53	22

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Halifax 0 Macclesfield 1.
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Partick 2 Dundee United 0; Motherwell 2 Falkirk 2. First division: Postponed: Clydebank v Ayr. Second division: Stenhousemuir 2 Berwick 2. Postponed: Greenock Morton v Clyde. Third division: East Stirling 3 Albion 0. Postponed: Forfar v Montrose.
UNIBOND NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: First division: Warrington 1 Casmarton 3. President's Cup: First round: Morecambe 3 Witton 5.
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Burton 0 Cambridge City 0; Grantley 1 Cheltenham 4. Postponed: Crawley v Trowbridge.
DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Aylesbury 3 Slough 3; Wokingham
FA TROPHY: Third-round replay: Merthyr 1 Enfield 1 (abandoned after 70min)
KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Alan Lido 1 Ebbw Vale 1.
FA PREMIER LEAGUE: Under-19 trophy: Quarter-final: Staffordshire 0 Nottinghamshire 3.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: FAI National League 1 Irish Football Lge 1.
GERMAN CUP: Quarter-finals: Kaiserslautern 4 St Pauli 1; Bayern Munich amateurs 1 Wolfsburg 2.
DUTCH LEAGUE: First division: NAC Breda 1 PSV Eindhoven 2.
SPANISH CUP: Quarter-final, first leg: Atletico Madrid 1 Albacete 1

BOWLS

NORTHAMPTON: English women's indoor championships: Triples: Quarter-finals: Cherwell bt Taunton 24-9; Angel bt Peterborough 21-7, Darlington bt Tye Green 20-10. South Forest bt West Berks 27-14. Champion of champions: Singles: Final: N Shaw (Thornaby) bt A Hallett (Dorchester) 21-11.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Washington 3 Boston 1; NY Islanders 3 Hartford 1; Quebec 5 Pittsburgh 4, Philadelphia 4 Tampa Bay 3; Calgary 6 Chicago 3; St Louis 6 Anaheim 3

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic division

	W	L	DPts	F	A
NY Rangers	12	9	3	27	67
Philadelphia	10	9	3	23	69
NY Islanders	9	10	3	21	55
Tampa Bay	9	12	2	20	62
New Jersey	8	9	4	20	55
Washington	7	10	5	19	53
Florida	7	12	3	17	51

Northeast division

Quebec	16	4	3	35	92
Pittsburgh	15	6	2	32	94
Boston	12	8	2	26	66
Buffalo	9	7	4	22	47
Hartford	8	12	3	19	57
Montreal	7	10	4	18	48
Ottawa	3	14	3	9	44

Western Conference

Central division

	W	L	DPts	F	A
Chicago	14	7	1	29	83
Detroit	14	6	1	29	81
St Louis	13	6	1	27	76
Toronto	10	10	3	23	65
Dallas	9	10	3	21	66
Winnipeg	8	11	3	19	63

Pacific division

Calgary	11	8	4	26	75
San Jose	9	10	2	20	48
Vancouver	8	8	7	19	66
Edmonton	8	12	2	18	57
Los Angeles	5	11	4	14	60
Anaheim	6	14	1	13	44

GOLF

LOS CABOS, Mexico: Senior Slam tournament: Final scores: 139: R Floyd (US) 72, 67; 146: D Stockton (US) 70, 75. 145: 147: S Hobday (SA) 70, 77. 155: L Trevino (US) 80, 75.

ICE SKATING

BIRMINGHAM: World championships: Pairs: Positions after short programme: 1, R Kovarikova and R Novotny (Cz) 0.5 factored pts, 2, M Wotzel and I Strauer (Ger) 1.0; 3, E Shishkova and V Naumov (Russ) 1.5, 4, M Eltsova and A Bushkov (Russ) 2.0; 5, J Meno and T Sand (US) 2.5, 6, M Petrova and A Sikharulidze (Russ) 3.0; 7, J Berezniak and O Shliakhov (Lat) 3.5, 8, S Abitbol and S Bernadis (Fr) 4.0; 17, L Rogers and M Aldred (GB) 8.5

MOTOR RALLYING

LISBON: Portuguese rally (after five stages). 1, J Kankkunen (Fin, Toyota) 54min 20sec; 2, C Sainz (Sp, Subaru) 54:32; 3, D Auriol (Fr, Toyota) 54:33; 4, C McRae (GB, Subaru) 54:44; 5, A Schwarz (Ger, Toyota) 55:15; 6, B Thiery (Bel, Ford) 54.24.

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Second division: Postponed: Dewsbury v Keighley.

RUGBY UNION

Representative match
East Midlands 19 Barbarians 56
East Midlands: Tries: Alston, Glanville, Mor. Cons: Grayson 2. Barbarians: Tries: Halpin 3, de Glanville 2, Foley, Stark, Woods. Cons: Burke 8.

SQUASH

LISBON: Portuguese Open: First round: P Nicol (Scot) bt J Raumolin (Fin) 15-9, 15-6, 15-3; P Whitlock (Eng) bt A Thoren (Swe) 10-15, 17-14, 15-11, 15-8; M Heath (Scot) bt A Hands (Eng) 7-15, 15-5, 7-15, 15-4, 15-13; S Parke (Eng) bt A Dawes (Wales) 15-7, 15-11, 15-9; D Maddinge (Eng) bt S Khan (Fr) 15-10, 15-8, 15-8; R Eyles (Aus) bt J Wellings (Eng) 15-13, 15-5, 15-8, R Norman (NZ) bt L Barbosa (Por) 15-9, 15-12, 15-10; S Meads (Eng) bt C Leach (Eng) 15-12, 15-8, 15-10, P Marshall (Eng) bt S Wellon (Aus) 15-12, 15-3, 15-8, S Stopuro (Fin) bt M Zaman Gul (Pakistan) 15-13, 15-12, 15-14.

TENNIS

INDIAN WELLS, California: Men's tournament (US unless stated): First round: J Courier bt M Zoecke (Ger) 6-3, 7-5; S Edberg (Swe) bt D Sanguinetti (It) 6-3, 4-6, 6-3; F Clavet (Sp) bt M Washington 6-2, 6-3, T Enqvist (Swe) bt M Woodforde (Aus) 6-3, 6-4; R Raneberg bt J Golmard (Fr) 6-3, 6-1; P Rafter (Aus) bt A Corretja (Sp) 2-6, 7-5, 6-2; P Korda (Cz) bt A Krickstein 6-2, 6-0; G Forget (Fr) bt O Delaitre (Fr) 6-7, 5-1, 7-5, T Ho bt J Yzaga (Peru) 6-4, 6-4.
DELRAY BEACH, Florida: Women's tournament (US unless stated): First round: N Arendt bt Clare Wood (GB) 6-4, 6-3; M Wardel Wimeyer bt N Medvedeva (Ukr) 4-6, 6-4, 6-1; E Likhovtseva (Kaz) bt E Reinach (SA) 6-4, 7-5; B Rittner (Ger) bt E Savoldi (It) 6-0, 6-1, K Boogert (Holl) bt K Nagatsuka (Japan) 5-7, 6-4, 6-2, A Sugiyama (Japan) bt N Miyagi (Japan) 3-6, 6-2, 6-0; G Fernandez bt A Serra-Zanetti (It) 6-2, 6-4; R Dragomir (Rom) bt M Bollegraf (Holl) 6-1, 3-6, 7-6, K Kschwendt (Ger) bt J Watanabe 6-3, 6-4; F Labat (Arg) bt T Panova (Russ) 6-1, 6-0; L Garrone (It) bt L Harvey-Wild 6-3, 3-6, 6-3. Second round: S Graf (Ger) bt M Sánchez Lorenzo (Sp) 6-1, 6-4; N Bradtke (Aus) bt Kristina Radford (Aus) 6-4, 6-0.
COPENHAGEN: Men's tournament: First round: J Bates (GB) bt J Renzenbrink (Ger) 6-2, 7-5; A Jarryd (Swe) bt A Mronz (Ger) 6-4, 6-2; A Olhovskiy (Russ) bt L Rehmann (Ger) 7-6, 6-2; J P Fleurian (Fr) bt D Sapsford (GB) 6-3, 6-4; P Cash (Aus) bt D Vacek (Cz) 7-6, 4-6, 7-6.

POOLS DIVIDENDS

LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance: 24pts £12,002.50, 23½ £171.05, 23 £44.85, 22½ £8.80, 22 £3.10, 21½ £1.25. A seventh dividend was cancelled as it would have have been less than £1.00 (Rule 9f) Monies which have been paid to the seventh dividend shared amongst remaining dividends. Four draws: £7.35. Ten homes: £9.00 Five aways: £688.65.
VERNONS: Treble chance: Four dividends only (see Rule 10f). 24pts £8,583.25, 23½ £68.80, 23 £19.20, 22½ £3.85. Ten homes nothing barred: £5.20. Five aways nothing barred: £2.85.
ZETTERS: Treble chance: 24pts £50.05, 23 £1.00. Two dividends only (see Rule 9 (a) Four draws nothing barred: £1 40 Four super homes nothing barred: £6.40 Four aways: £26.20. Dividends to 20p units.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Igls	20	115	good	varied	good	cloud	3	4/3
(Good skiing everywhere; odd warm patch low down)								
Mayrhofen	5	105	good	good	closed	sun	-5	7/3
(First-class snow conditions; cold)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	230	460	powder	powder	good	fair	1	8/3
(Excellent skiing; pistes quiet)								
Avoriaz	340	430	good	powder	good	fair	-2	8/3
(Excellent everywhere; some ice below 1,200 metres)								
ITALY								
Cervinia	120	400	good	heavy	good	snow	0	8/3
(Good skiing but very poor light)								
SWITZERLAND								
St Moritz	30	110	good	varied	icy	snow	-2	8/3
(Tricky skiing in poor light; snow lasting; icy low down)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

DIADORA LEAGUE: Carlsberg Trophy: Fourth round: Hemel Hempstead v Collier Row.
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Southern division: Watsonville v Yate.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Watford v Ipswich (at Northwood FC, 2.0); Swindon v Queens Park Rangers.
PONTINS LEAGUE (7.0). First division: Aston Villa v Wolverhampton Wanderers; Blackburn Rovers v Sunderland (at Wigan); Nottingham Forest v Notts County. Second division: Huddersfield v Manchester City; Oldham Athletic v Port Vale. Postponed: Sheffield Wednesday v Leicester City.
CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Newcastle Town v Eastwood.
JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Tiptree v Lowestoft
FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Quarter-final: Dundalk v Derry (8.0).
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Premier League Trophy: Under-19: Quarter-final: Essex v Avon (at Grays FC, 2.0). English School Snickers Trophy: Under-19: Third round: Ardingly College, Sussex, v Northgate HS, Suffolk (2.0).

RUGBY UNION

Club match
High Wycombe v Reading (7.30)
BRITISH UNIVERSITIES SPORTS ASSOCIATION COMPETITION: Semi-final: Loughborough v West London IHE (at Cambridge University 7.0)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League (8.0): Derby v Manchester; London v Birmingham.
BOWLS: English women's national championships (Northampton).
ICE SKATING: World championships (NEC, Birmingham)

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هكذا من الأصل

Judges take short view of sparkling Cousins

BY JOHN HENNESSY

STEVEN COUSINS, the British figure skating champion, produced the best programme of his young life at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham yesterday. He was placed sixth in the world championships short programme, but you do not have to be a jingoist to question whether or not he was fairly marked.

The winner was Todd Eldredge, the United States champion, followed by Elvis Stojko, the Canadian winner a year ago, and Scott Davis, Eldredge's predecessor as holder of the American title.

There need be no doubt about those three, Eldredge and Stojko because of their superior combination, triple axel to triple toe loop, and Davis because of a superb sit spin and an explosive step sequence.



Cousins: flawless display

But Alexei Urmanov, Olympic champion under a Russian banner, is placed fourth in spite of a harsh skid landing on the triple axel and an uninspired series of steps. Philippe Candeloro, the French champion, is placed fifth, though he, quite unexpectedly, made a hash of the double axel.

If there was an error somewhere in Cousins's programmes it eluded not only these ageing eyes but also those of a patently fair-minded, and younger, British judge seated nearby.

Cousins, 22, landed his triple axel cleanly and was perfectly set up for the accompanying double toe loop. The triple lutz was a thing of beauty and the friendly judge confirmed that he performed the correct number of turns in all the spins.

The measure of Cousins's advance is that he finished only tenth in the European championships in Dortmund in January. Now only two Europeans were ahead of him, and in dubious circumstances.

For Eldredge this was a heartening resurgence as he has lived in the shadows since last appearing in 1992. Now, with the national title under his belt, he seems a new man.

There was an anxious moment for American spectators when he was seen to struggle on landing the triple lutz but he held on and there was no further cause for alarm. Stojko conquered his emotions bravely and, until the last group appeared, it seemed he would be in pole position. He is still on the front row of the grid, with only half a point separating him from Eldredge, but there are some dangerous spoilers around, unusually in the season after a Winter Olympics, any one of whom can upset a few apple carts in the free skating tonight.

National preference aside, one felt a special support for Stojko; he has already explained how he suffered a roller-coaster of emotions after injuring a leg eight weeks ago.

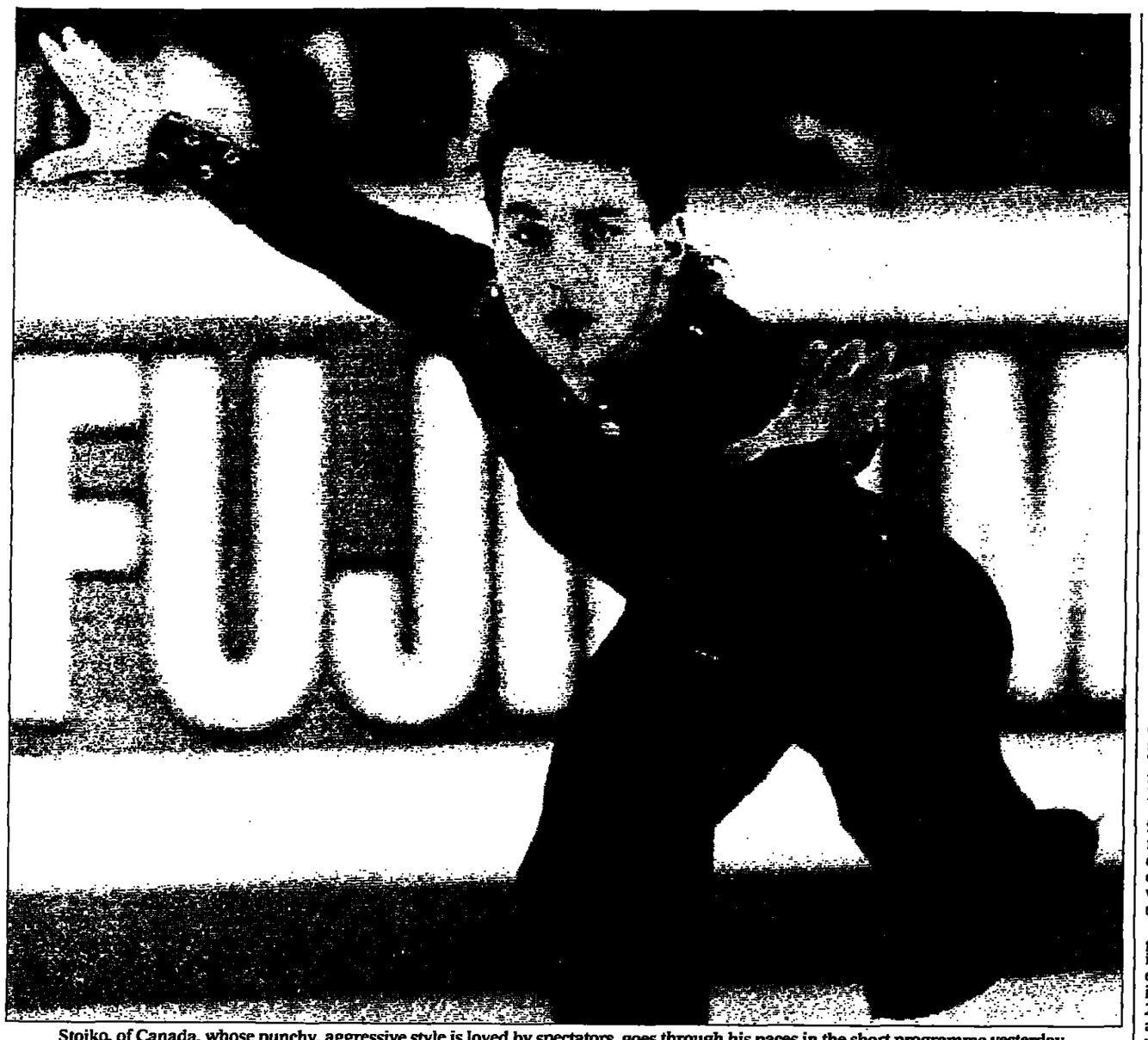
For two and a half minutes yesterday, there was no sign of either inner perturbation or physical ailment as he clocked up the eight compulsory elements without fear of a flaw.

After that dazzling combination, of triple axel to triple toe loop, "the adrenalin flowed," he said. The mandatory double axel was so easily within his compass as to raise thoughts about whether it belongs in this exercise, though Candeloro later banished the idea. Stojko's option jump was a triple lutz, from introductory steps again child's play to a man like Stojko in this form.

Clive Shorten, Great Britain's second string, lies 22nd, betrayed by a triple flip which was transformed into a double. Even so, he has done enough to take his place in the free skating.

TODAY: Original dance, 2.0. Men's free skating, 6.30

Results, page 44



Stojko, of Canada, whose punchy, aggressive style is loved by spectators, goes through his paces in the short programme yesterday.

Swan cuts no ice with spaceship Stojko

Simon Barnes on the eclectic mix of skaters on view in Birmingham

It is all in the way these things take you, I suppose. One competitor yesterday, in the short programme of the men's event at the world skating championships in Birmingham, dressed up in a *Star Trek* outfit and whooshed about the place like a rather macho spaceship: another wore a velvet doublet and a ruff and skated to a song about the eternal untrustworthiness of women.

Odd to think that both of them were outmanoeuvred by an American with an almost ostentatiously unpretentious routine, skated to the soundtrack of something called *Swing Kids*.

The spaceship is called Elvis: Elvis Stojko, world champion, and he plans more spaceships tomorrow when he aims to regain the lead in the final free programme. The ruff-wearer is Alexei Urmanov; tomorrow, the Olympic champion will be wearing plumes and dancing Swan Lake, fluttering arms and all. Well, it would not do if we were all made the same.

Stojko, of Canada, has rather made a career of putting the macho into skating. He would not attract a second glance at a Canadian truck stop, at least as long as he did not wear his spacesuit.

His style is punchy and aggressive, by instinct a crowd-pleaser. He seemed yesterday to have toned down that side of his nature in an effort to make certain of pleasing the judges as well. He clearly does not intend to marginalise himself as the jolly maverick the crowd always thinks short-changed by the judges.

Stojko's hobbies — and does not he make sure we know about them — include Taekwon-do and dirt bike racing. In fact, he introduced the British skater, Steven Cousins, to the latter. Cousins — rare thing, a Briton who skates as if he really loves to perform — promptly rode into a tree.

But this is not the way Stojko picked up his injury. He hit the side of the rink in practice and damaged an ankle, the sort of thing that looks as if it ought to happen all the time, but does not.

It stood up well yesterday. "It felt great," he said. "There was so much adrenalin flowing, I only focused on my skating." His plans for regaining the lead include a quadruple jump in his free programme today: "I'll go for it full out."

By their jumps ye shall know them. It is absolutely no good being a spaceship or even a swan if you cannot do the big jumps. Such art as you possess must be spatchcocked onto a succession of spectacular and inordinately difficult athletic feats.

Like many sports, figure skating is two sports in one: putting and driving, serving and shot-making, passing and tackling. In skating, you do your art for show, but you jump for dough. You ask Urmanov. He missed his landing on the combination, and that was enough to leave him behind the leaders.

Stojko includes in his free programme a tune apparently called *Frogs in Space*, which brings us by easy stages to Philippe Candeloro. Candeloro, the darling of the French, is a classic example of the forever-hard-done-by maverick. He tends towards understated performances that involve a bare chest, American flag, or mimed injection of nameless substances.

Candeloro wears a pony tail, cad's side whiskers, goatee and earring. As ever, his performance, to music from *The Godfather*, was long on style. Content? A missed landing cost him any chance of the lead.

It was not a day when style was enough. Todd Eldredge, of the United States, won the day on pure content. His clean, unflashy routine hit the spot with the judges. Elvis the spaceship may still be the narrow favourite, but he has missed pole position.

IAAF hopes Christie can still be persuaded to compete

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

MICHAEL ROSSWESS will represent Britain in the 60 metres at the world indoor athletics championships in Barcelona, which start tomorrow, even if Linford Christie, the Olympic 100 metres champion, has a late change of heart and decides to compete.

The British Athletic Federation (BAF) yesterday insisted that they would not drop Rosswess from the team after Primo Nebiolo, the president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), revealed that he was still trying to persuade Christie to run.

Nebiolo said: "The British federation can change the line-up." Istvan Gyulai, the general secretary of the IAAF, added that Rosswess should be willing to step aside.

However, after speaking to Peter Radford, the executive chairman, Tony Ward, the spokesman of the BAF, said: "There are no circumstances that we would drop Michael Rosswess from the team.

"If the president, in his fervour to get Linford Christie to run, could persuade him, he could do it, as far as we are concerned, via a wild card. We would then have three sprinters in the event."

Christie, 34, who has won a gold medal at every leading international championships except the world indoor meeting, broke the world indoor 200 metres record last month and later confirmed that he wanted to run in the 60 metres in Barcelona to pursue a full set of gold medals.

However, after winning a 60 metres race in Germany last Sunday, Christie announced that he would not compete in the three-day championships because he was tired.

Christie still plans to travel to Barcelona in his capacity as the Great Britain team captain, and, yesterday, it became clear that the IAAF had not yet given up hope of persuading him to run. "Personally, I hope that Christie can decide to compete," Nebiolo said.

"If I see him, I will ask him to compete. I believe it is my obligation and I believe it would be good for him to compete."

Gyulai revealed that Christie was still on the Barcelona entry list and so, technically, could still compete. He added: "If someone like Linford Christie, whose only missing medal is this one, wants to run, I would feel honoured to help him. Rosswess is a young athlete and he would have many years to come.

"We are not chasing Linford. He must make the decision. He must know if he wants this medal to complete his collection and be unprecedented in history."

Christopher Winner, the spokesman for the IAAF, criticised Christie for his late withdrawal. "Athletes like Sally Gunnell and Colin Jackson told us they would not be coming months ago, and that's cricket," he said. "But this is extremely discouraging after raising the hopes of so many lovers of athletics."



Christie: team captain

Salim considers retiring

BY SIMON WILDE

SALIM MALIK, who has been given seven days by Pakistan's cricket board to explain why he should not be disciplined for his part in alleged attempts to bribe opponents, may announce his retirement from the game rather than await punishment, according to *Dawn*, Pakistan's leading English-language newspaper, yesterday.

Salim, 31, who was dismissed as Pakistan captain on Tuesday, has denied any wrong-doing and yesterday repeated his intention to sue the Melbourne newspaper that first linked his name to the match-rigging allegations, adding that he might also take legal action against former team-mates Rashid Latif and Basit Ali.

Rashid and Basit made an early departure from Pakistan's recent tour of southern Africa, an act that contributed to the need for the mounting charges of corruption to be examined. Rashid had accused Salim of betting on matches in which he was playing.

Salim said yesterday that the board's decision to remove him from the captaincy was "unfair" but unless he can speedily prove it to be so, he will almost certainly not play for his country again. He is Pakistan's third-highest Test run-scorer with 4,804 runs at an average of 45.75 from 84 matches.

Imran Khan, the former Pakistan captain, has taken Salim's fall as a cue to resume his nationalistic rhetoric. He is an outspoken critic of corruption in Pakistan and claims that the country has surrendered its identity for Western materialism.

Jang, the Pakistan Urdu newspaper, yesterday reported Imran as saying that anyone found guilty of betting on cricket should be publicly hanged. All forms of betting in Pakistan are illegal, although it is believed there is a large gambling black market.

The Pakistan cricket board will hope that its prompt action in dealing with the allegations will prevent serious harm being done to its image in the months leading up to its defence and joint hosting of the World Cup early next year, although further players are expected to be implicated in the scandal.

Intikhab Alam's response to being removed as Pakistan manager for failing to maintain discipline among his players was "surprise". However, almost every tour he supervised witnessed an unwillingness among the visitors to accept the decisions of those in authority and prominent among them was often the Pakistan manager himself.

De Villiers helps to seal Test victory

SOUTH Africa completed victory over New Zealand by 93 runs in the Centenary Test match at Eden Park, Auckland yesterday. Having set New Zealand 275 to win in two sessions, South Africa bowled them out for 181.

The match seesawed between the sides before South Africa wrapped up victory, Fanie de Villiers spearheading the collapse with four wickets for 42.

New Zealand attacked the target and appeared to have a good chance after a run-a-ball partnership of 64 between Ken Rutherford and Stephen Fleming had taken them to 114 for three at tea.

Fleming drove airily at the third ball after the interval from Matthews and edged to Dave Richardson. Rutherford scored 56 from 60 balls, including 11 fours, before he tried to pull a ball from outside off stump and spooned a catch to Andrew Hudson at mid-on.

Adam Parore and Dipak Patel kept New Zealand in the hunt but, with 108 still needed, Patel was superbly run out by Jonty Rhodes. Parore soon followed and the innings tailed away tamely to the South Africa seamers.

A fine 101 from Hansie Cronje, the South Africa captain, his fifth Test century, had allowed South Africa to declare shortly before lunch at 308 for six wickets.

New Zealand called Kerry Walmsley, a seam bowler who has played only three first-class matches, in to the twelve for the first of two Test matches against Sri Lanka that begins in Napier on Saturday. Shane Thomson returns after injury to replace Matthew Hart but Martin Crowe has declared himself unfit.

Scoreboard, page 44

Betts keeps Wigan links

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE astute manoeuvrings of Wigan are not merely confined to the field. Although Denis Betts, unlike Frano Botica, will be taking up a full-time contract with Auckland Warriors in May, the Great Britain rugby league second-row forward has decided against completely severing his links with the club.

Betts, 25, will return to Central Park in October for five months during the Winfield Cup close season, and will possibly do the same next year as well. "My prime concern is proving myself for a World Cup place with England later this year," he said. "It involves a likely two years of back-to-back rugby, but both clubs have expressed confidence in me that I'm physically up to the workload."

Despite a five-year deal signed by Betts at Auckland, Jack Robinson, the Wigan chairman, said yesterday: "If at any time Denis becomes disillusioned there, he will be straight back to Wigan." Having Betts available over two years for more than half the English season has certainly lessened the blow of his departure after eight years.

Auckland, one of four new clubs in the Australia-based competition, play their first game at home tomorrow. Botica was supposed to have joined the Warriors on a two-year deal, but will now play only a limited number of games for them this summer before returning on an extended year-long contract at Wigan, after representing New Zealand in the World Cup in October.

It could be that only one side will be relegated from the first division of the Stones Bitter championship. Doncaster fill one of the two relegation places, but the club's merger with Sheffield Eagles next season has confused the issues of promotion and demotion. A meeting of the Rugby Football League (RFL) board of directors must resolve these next Monday.

On the same day, Peter Fox, the Bradford Northern coach, and two of his players, David Myers and David Watson, who both failed to provide samples recently for drug testing, are to face separate RFL disciplinary hearings. Fox will be asked to explain allegations of gestures made to supporters following a home game with Featherstone Rovers last month.

Oldham are to leave Watersheddings after 100 years and move to a £6 million 10,000-capacity stadium, part of a shops and leisure complex, which is to be built over three years close to Oldham Athletic football club's home at Boundary Park.

Jim Quinn, the Oldham chairman, said: "This is the dawn of a new era for rugby league in the town. With a new stadium, we can build for the next century."

Hooper ensures tough target

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

HALF-centuries by Carl Hooper and Brian Lara helped West Indies to reach 257 before they were all out with two balls of their 50 overs remaining in the opening one-day cricket international against Australia in Barbados yesterday.

Hooper hit 84 at the rate of a run a ball while Lara needed 72 deliveries for his 55. They shared a fourth-wicket partnership of 68 in 69 balls after West Indies had lost three wickets for 87, Richie Richardson, who has resumed the captaincy, being run out for nine.

Stuart Williams was the first to go after West Indies won the toss and decided to take first use of an easy-paced pitch. He edged Paul Reiffel to Ian Healy with the score at 26 in the eighth over.

Phil Simmons, reinstated after missing the recent tour of New Zealand, hit eight fours while making 37 off 40 balls before Shane Warne got one to turn sharply, forcing him into an edge to Mark Taylor at first slip.

When Steve Waugh's direct hit from short fine leg accounted for Richardson in the 21st over, the Australians could be well pleased with their efforts.

Hooper and Lara first steadied things, then accelerated with some dazzling strokes. Hooper hit eight fours and a six, while Lara, afters some early struggles, found the boundary on seven occasions.

When Lara, Jimmy Adams and Junior Murray fell in quick succession, Winston Benjamin's hard hitting provided sound backing for Hooper. The pair ensured that there would be no collapse, adding 50 from 47 balls.

Craig McDermott was the pick of the Australia bowlers, taking three for 25 in ten overs.

☐ Sky Sports yesterday agreed a four-year deal to televise international cricket in the West Indies. Sky will show live coverage of Australia's Tests and one-day matches there this year, New Zealand's next year, India's in 1997 and England's in 1998.

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WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 42

INANGA

(b) The New Zealand name for a small fish, *Galaxias attenuatus*, the young form of which is called whitebait. From the Maori. Also *inaka*, the South Island form. "Every year, shoals of the tiny, delicious inanga fish came up the creeks from the sea."

KIORE

(b) A small vegetarian rat, *Rattus exulans*, native to New Zealand. From the Maori name. "The Polynesian rat (*kiore, Mus exulans*) arrived in the voyaging canoes. They were probably stowaways."

METTWURST

(a) A type of smoked German sausage, from the German. "Mettwurst can be found in the form of a small sausage ('ends') or a horseshoe-shaped 'Westphalian' ring. Very heavily smoked; lightly spiced, no garlic. Mettwurst is eaten cold, sliced, but is also very good poached, sliced fairly thickly and served with boiled potatoes and cabbage."

HORNERO

(b) A South American bird of the genus *Furnarius*, especially *Furnarius rufus*, also called baker-bird, or oven-bird. From the Spanish for a baker. "A masterpiece along the line illustrated by swallow and martin is the nest of some of the South American oven-birds (Furnarius) — for instance, of that species (*Furnarius rufus*) which is called the hornero or baker."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. Kxf2! and now after 1. . . . cxd6; 2. Qxd6+ Kc8; 3. Qc5+ Kb8; 4. Nd7+! Bxd7: 5. Bf4+ Black is mated. Traps to avoid are 1, Kh1 Qxh2+! and Black mates, or 1. Kf1 dxc6 and the variation above fails as the bishop on f2 covers the c5 square.

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Hide chases people's championship

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT
IN LAS VEGAS

HERBIE HIDE, the World Boxing Organisation heavyweight champion, has travelled to Nevada from Norwich not so much to defend his title on Saturday as to acquire one. It is not recognised by any of the bodies that run world championships, but the title of "people's champion" is clearly held by Riddick Bowe, the former undisputed world champion.

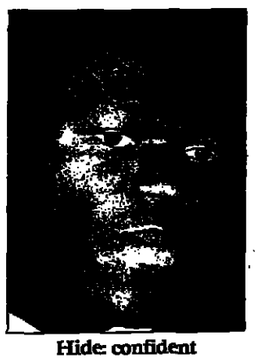
Even though Bowe holds no title and, to the shame of world boxing bodies, is not even rated by any of them, he is universally regarded as the best heavyweight in the world. Hide, while not being overawed by the size of his task or of Bowe and appearing quite confident of winning, remains subliminally deferential to the big man. Forgetting that he was the champion, he told a news conference here yesterday that: "I have come to win the title."

Later in the day, Hide corrected himself. "I'm defending the title," he said, "but I feel I'm going to get a title as well because I'm fighting the best in the world. When, not if, I beat Bowe, I can look at myself in the mirror and say: 'Yes, Herbie, you are the best in the world'."

Hide, in spite of living in the shadow of Lennox Lewis and Frank Bruno, has not been overawed by the thought of boxing in Las Vegas or facing concentrated media attention. Even though yesterday he did not have Barry Hearn, his promoter (who arrives today), to hold his hand, Hide was relaxed and acquitted himself well before a battery of cameras, answering questions with a quiet confidence that had some Americans beginning to think that he could cause an upset. One punter immediately put $100, at 5-1, on Hide.

"I like the idea of coming to Las Vegas," Hide said: "When I'm running, I think of Vegas, I can't stop running — and the more they go on about Bowe, about how good he is, the more excited I get."

Hide said that he had studied as many of Bowe's contests on video as he could get hold of and had come to the conclusion that the former champion looked good when throwing punches, but not when receiving them. Bowe, he felt, was not much more than a bully.


Hide: confident


Bowe: respected

Bowe's bout with Lewis at the Olympic Games in Seoul in 1988 has convinced Hide that a few well-placed clouts will turn the bout at the MGM Grand his way. "When you see that fight, you realise that Bowe is a bully," he said. "He likes dishing it out, but, if he doesn't get his own way, he crumbles.

"I've got faster hands. He is flat-footed. He is a good inside fighter, but I don't fight inside. People are looking at what Bowe can do, like when they were looking at what Michael Bentt could do — but I exposed Michael Bentt."

Hide is confident that, after he beats Bowe, he will meet Mike Tyson, who is reported to have said that there are no good heavyweights out there except a young English boxer — Herbie Hide. Freddie King, Hide's trainer, had tried to say that Tyson had said that Hide was the only one in the world who could give him a fight, but Hide, with a refreshing modesty, corrected him. "No, he didn't say that," Hide said. "He said I was the best man coming up."

Apart from Tyson, Lewis, Bowe and Evander Holyfield, Hide has little respect for other heavyweight contenders, least of all Frank Bruno. "I would knock him out in one or two rounds," Hide said. "He's not world class because every time he fights good opponents, he gets knocked out. I respect only Lennox, Tyson, Bowe and Holyfield; the rest of them are cowboys. They could not even tie my shoelaces."

Hide thought for a bit about his shoelaces and then, with a smile, added: "You know something, the only way Bowe can beat me is if he can tie my shoelaces together."

RADIO CHOICE

Matters of life and death

Soundtrack: Living above the Parlour. *Radio 4, 7.20pm.*

This is not one for the faint-hearted. I advise you to listen to it *after* a meal, not before it. Either way, avoid a juicy, underdone steak. Sara Parker's inquiry is into matters of life and death. Mainly death. June is a mortician. When we first meet her, she is introducing some police recruits to their first corpses. "Everyone all right?", she asks, not without reason. She and Tony, the man in her life, live over the mortuary. From their window, the view is one of undertakers carrying bodies to the deep freeze. A neighbour's child once saw a hand dangling loose from under a covering. But of course, life must go on for June and Tony. *Living above the Parlour* ends with a happy event. For this relief, much thanks.

The Boston Romantics. *Radio 3, 1.00pm.*

It was news to me that in the 19th century Boston was spoken of as America's Athens. There was an eruption of the arts in the city, a veritable renascence. Margaret Juntwait's series focuses on the music-makers, beginning today with John Knowles Paine. He made history as the first professor of music at an American university (Harvard). Paradoxically, although his compositions were heavily influenced by Bach and Beethoven, they put the Boston school on the road to a recognisably American style. We hear extracts from some of his works this afternoon, including — a soul-stirring experience — the Agnus Dei from his *Mass in D*.

Peter Davalle

Andrew Longmore finds aggressive intent at Cambridge University


Lois, right, one of the leading boxers in the Cambridge team, gets down to some serious training with Hamish Bett, his sparring partner. Photograph: Geoff Robinson

No holds barred as boxing philosophers come to blows

The notice, by the door, suggests a genteel form of the noble art — "Please refrain from spitting in this gymnasium. It is unhygienic and unpleasant for the cleaners." This is, after all, midtown Cambridge, not downtown Detroit. Yet, for a frenzied hour or two at the 88th University boxing match tonight, the boundaries will be blurred as philosophers hit political scientists and historians pummel linguists with an intent recognisable in every gym in the land.

For once, Cambridge has a realistic chance of ending a sequence of nine successive defeats, and it matters not a jot that the dangers of the sport were advertised with startling clarity 12 days ago, nor that, in the minds of the abolitionists, intelligent people should know better. The same basic emotions which propelled Nigel Benn and Gerald McClellan to near mutual destruction will flow through the Guildhall tonight. "It will," Mason Cranswick, the Cambridge captain, a postgraduate in business administration from Magdalene, promised, "be no holds barred."

The real difference is that the 18 boxers of light and dark blue have a genuine choice — not the stark one between poverty and potential wealth that faces most professionals. If they need any reminders of what they are letting themselves in for, the Cambridge squad trains, with supreme irony, in a tight gym on the first floor of the university health centre. Yet their reasons for boxing are as old and as powerful as the sport itself. "Excitement and challenge: it gives you an amazing buzz; there is nothing to compare with it," Tom Lucas, the Cambridge middleweight, said.

Lucas, a political science postgraduate from Sidney Sussex College, took up boxing only eight months ago and has had just one contest. Much of his mental preparation for tonight will be spent reconciling the novice's twin peaks of aggression and fear. "It's 50-50," he said. "Half of you wants to go out there and do some damage, the other half wonders what on earth you're doing. There were moments before my first fight when I really thought I must be mad, but once you're geared up and ready, nothing will stop you."

His first bout nearly ended in disaster. "It was against this lad from the Kingfisher club in Lowestoft — M. Hoyle, he was called," Lucas said. "I never knew his Christian name, but he came at me like a bull in a china shop and I thought: 'God, this is going to be embarrassing, being knocked out in front of 400 people in the Guildhall.' Yet I came through and won on points. I was really quite dazed for 15 minutes afterwards."

While the professional game's concession to injury is to treat the effects rather than reduce the risks, amateur boxing, at all levels, is acutely aware of the dangers.

Contests last three rounds of two minutes, headgear is compulsory and, at all shows other than the University match, Trevor Rees, the Cambridge coach, will match the medical cards of his boxers with those of potential opponents to ensure that nobody is badly outweighed or outclassed.

"It's a big responsibility," Rees said. "I'll be apprehensive for tonight, partly because I'm always concerned for the boxers, partly because I think we can win. The difference is that I'm under no pressure to keep them in there. No one has paid £500 for a seat. If I can see they are on a hiding, I'll pull them out. The ref usually does it first, anyway."

Rees is head gardener at Sidney Sussex, his co-trainers include a solicitor and a Japanese chef called Saito, who coached the Nepal team at the Olympic Games in Moscow in 1980. An unlikely trio, but each is aware that teaching the rudiments of defence is the first priority. "There is more science to it than I expected," Richard Bramley, the Cambridge heavyweight, said. "The temptation is to go in and fight, but that's not what it's about."

Bramley will discover how well he has mastered that art in his first contest, tonight. He admits that it will be a very different experience from his two University rugby matches — no team to share the nerves — but neither the fate of McClellan nor the odd comment from friends, questioning his sanity, has dampened his enthusiasm for the fray.

"I've learnt all these skills and I want to put them into practice," he said. "That's why I came down here. The McClellan fight came at a bad time, I suppose, but I knew someone who died playing rugby and I never contemplated giving that up."

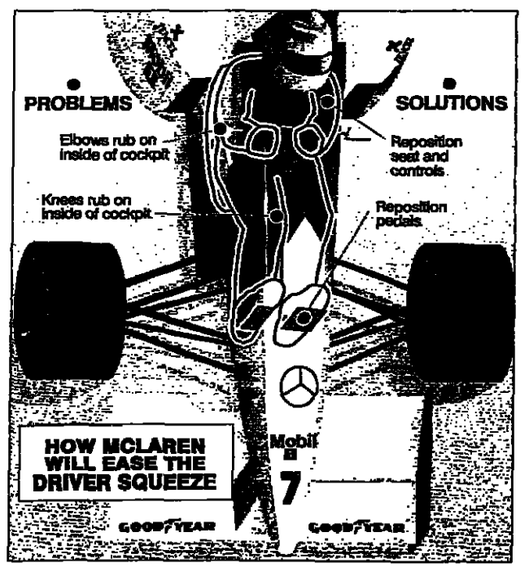
If there is a top Cambridge boxer, he is Nick Lois, a Greek Cypriot — an engineering student, a southpaw with quick hands and a sharp left hook.

Rees believes that he could challenge for a regional title if he wanted, maybe go on to be a professional, but Lois is not interested in taking his career further.

"I wouldn't want to do it, not because I might be afraid, but because pro boxing is all about attack and aggression," he said. "There is not enough defence. If someone tried to fight like McClellan in this sort of boxing, they would lose."

He tried once and suffered his worst defeat in seven bouts. "I had a load of friends cheering me on and I knocked this guy down twice, then lost concentration and left myself open," he said. "I was knocked down twice. It was stupid."

How much does he worry about getting hurt? "I always worry, but not so much this time because I know the standard," he said. "You get scared if you know you're not ready. I know I'm ready, so I'm looking forward to it. Once you're in the ring, you have no choice anyway."



McLaren play down late changes

Oliver Holt finds a Formula One team having to make swift adjustments to cockpit design

The McLaren Formula One team last night laughed off suggestions that it might be about to embark on a radical and highly-expensive redesign of its new car to ensure that Nigel Mansell is sitting comfortably when the grand prix season begins in Brazil in 17 days' time.

Mika Hakkinen, Mansell's team-mate, implied earlier this week that the poor times recorded by the team in testing in Estoril, Portugal, were caused by the discomfort that the pair had to endure in a cramped cockpit. McLaren was immediately accused of a "cockpit cock-up" that would cost millions to remedy and would ruin the beginning of its new, high-profile partnership with Mercedes, its engine suppliers.

The team did confirm yesterday that Mansell would return to the factory in Woking today to discuss the problem. However, a spokesman insisted that it was a matter of fine tuning, another seat-fitting and, perhaps, a minuscule adjustment in the position of the foot pedals.

"Problems with discomfort are all part of getting the car ready for the new season," the spokesman said. "Nigel had a very detailed and tortuous seat-fitting last month and everything was OK, but you cannot recreate the situation of being buffeted in the corners or breaking hard and what that does to your body.

"Testing is designed to discover this sort of problem. It throws up other technical questions, too, but nobody seems interested in them. We may have to shave a tiny bit off the seat here or there, alter its shape slightly or move the pedals a millimetre. Either way, they will be back testing at Estoril on Monday."

Discomfort in the car has become a necessary evil for drivers forced to squeeze into small cockpits so that designers can achieve the best aerodynamic results. This season, designers have also had to cope with a new set of safety regulations which have altered the shape of the cockpit. The sides are now higher and new head restraints have been fitted which slightly change the driver's position.

Mansell was stung by criticism that he was too heavy when he returned to Formula One at the end of last season and has lost weight since. Hakkinen is a leaner build, but has also been experiencing problems in the car. "It is like running the London Marathon with shoes that are too small," he said.

At 5ft 9in and nearly 12 stone, Mansell is one of the larger drivers in the sport as well as the oldest at 41. Yet his celebrity status may have caused the commotion on this occasion. "It is an entirely routine situation," the spokesman said. "If this was anyone other than Nigel, there would be none of this fuss."

RADIO 1

FM Stereo 4.00am Clive Warren 6.30 Steve Wright 9.00 Simon Mayo: featuring Stevie Wonder 12.00 Lisa L'Anson, incl at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier, incl at 4.20 The Amazing Spiderman and at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Evening Session 8.00 Soundbite 10.00 Mark Radcliffe 12.00-4.00am Lynn Parsons

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Fiona Armstrong, incl at 2.30 the star guest interview 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Marc Blake's Whining for England 7.30 David Allen 9.00 Paul Jones 10.00 British Country10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Steve Madden 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, including at 6.55 and 7.55 Racing Preview 8.35 The Magazine, incl at 9.40 Film Review; 10.35 Euronews; 11.00 Gut Reaction 12.00 Midday with Mair, including at 12.34pm Liz Barclay with Moneycheck 2.05 Ruscoe on Five, including at 3.15 Prime Minister's Question Time 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide 7.00 News Extra, incl at 7.20 sport 7.35 Women on Top 8.05 Arthur Smith on the Floor Southampton University 10.05 News Talk 11.00 Night Extra, incl at 11.45 The Financial World Tonight 12.05am Night Moves 2.05 Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Maurice Dee and Carol McGiffin 10.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Anna Raeburn 3.00 Tommy Boyd 7.00 Samantha Mash and Sean Bolger 10.00 Caesar the Geezer 1.00am Wild Al Kelly

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 4.30am BBC English 4.45 Fruhmagazin 5.00 Newshour 6.00 Morgenmagazin 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Manon 7.30 Network UK 8.00 News 8.10 Faith 8.15 Books 8.30 John Peel 9.00 News 9.05 Business Report 9.15 Our Own Correspondent 9.30 Farming 9.45 Sport 10.00 News 10.01 Assignment 10.30 Quote Unquote11.00 Newsdesk 11.15 BBC English 11.45 Mittagsmagazin 12.00 News 12.10pm Faith 12.15 Multitrack 12.45 Sport 1.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Manon 2.45 The Learning World 3.00 News 3.15 Greenfield 4.00 News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Aktuell 5.00 News 5.05 Business 5.15 BBC English 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Aktuell 7.00 News 7.05 Outlook 7.30 On the Move 7.45 Farming 8.00 News 8.10 Faith 8.15 World Today 8.30 Europe Today 9.00 News 10.05 Business Report 10.15 Network UK 10.45 Sport 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Quote Unquote 12.00 News 12.15am Music Review 1.00 News 1.05 Outlook 1.30 On the Move 1.45 Global Concerns 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 The Novel 3.00 News 3.15 Sport 3.30 Faith 4.00 Newsdesk

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey 9.00 Robert Booth 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Bloch (Schelomo) 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Reports 7.00 Travel Guide 8.00 Evening Concert: Wagner (Rhine Journey, Götterdämmerung; Forest Murmurs, Siegfried); Mussorgsky (Night on the Bare Mountain); Brahms (Violin Concerto in D); Beethoven (Symphony No 2 in D) 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am André Leon

VIRGIN

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Wendy Lloyd 7.00 Paul Coyte 11.00 Nick Abbot 2.00am Janey Lee Grace

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: *The Dreaming of the Bones*, by W.B. Yeats 6.55 Weather
7.00 On Air: With Andrew McGregor. Bartók (Romanian Folk Dances); Mozart (Fantasia in F minor); Spohr (Octet in E, Op 32); Mendelssohn, arr W.T. Best (War March of the Priests, Athalie); 8.11 Purcell Portfolio: Purcell (A selection of songs); 8.30 Poulenc (Piano Concerto)
9.00 Composers of the Week: Swedish Romantics. Wilhelm Stenhammar (Symphony in G minor, Op 34; In the Seraglio Garden; Fantasia No 3 in B minor, Op 11)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Piers Burton-Page. Handel (Concerto grosso in D minor, Op 3 No 5); 10.10 Artist of the Week: Steven Isserlis, cello. Boccherini (Cello Sonata No 5 in G); 10.15 Bach (Motet: Lobet den Herrn); Weber (Piano Sonata No 3 in D minor); Sullivan, arr Robinson (Savoy Dances); Tchaikovsky (Andante cantabile, Op 11); Bax (Northern Ballad No 3); Tallis (Mass: Puer natus est nobis)
12.00 Ensemble: The Fibonacci Sequence performs rarely heard chamber music (r)
1.00pm The Boston Romantics: See Choice
2.00 Schools: Radio Q and A 2.05 In the News 2.25 Something to Think About: Infant Assemblies 2.40 Music Workshop: Music Course 3 Orpheus
3.00 The Tippett Operas: Natalie Wheen introduces Tippett's fourth opera, *The Ice Break*
4.35 The Cann Twins Play Brahms: Waltzes, Op 39, excerpts; Variations on a Theme by Haydn, Op 56b
5.00 The Music Machine: GCSE pupils try out their compositions with the London Gabrieli Brass Ensemble
5.15 In Tune: Presented by Linda Ormiston. Gershwin (Overture: Of Thee I Sing); Vaughan Williams (Serenade to Music); Gershwin (An American in Paris); Verdi (Bella figlia dell' amore, Rigoletto)
7.30 BBC Singers Invitation Concert: Live from St James's Church, Piccadilly, London. Sarah Connolly, contralto; Paul Agnew, tenor; Stephen Gadd, baritone; BBC Singers and St James's Baroque Players under Ivor Bolton. William Boyce (David's Lamentation over Saul and Jonathan); 8.20 The Devil's Grasshoppers: Jennifer Thorp explores the role of the 18th-century dancing master; 8.40 Maurice Greene (The Song of Deborah and Barak)
9.30 Music at War: Music written in Britain during the Second World War
9.50 Frederica von Stade: The mezzo-soprano sings a selection of the Songs of the Auvergne
10.15 Time and Changes (r)
10.45 Night Waves: Ariel Dorfman, playwright and novelist
11.30-12.30am Voices: Songs from Hugo Wolf's *Spanisches Liederbuch*
1.30-2.40 Night School: Poetry of Passion 2.00 Dance Resource for PE: City Life 2

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing: Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day, with the Very Rev Gilleasbuig Macmillan 6.30 Today incl 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze
10.00-10.30 News; After Eden (FM only): A six-part drama series by Alison Leonard about a woman priest (3/6)
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 Something Understood (LW only): A spiritual anthology
10.30 Woman's Hour: Jenni Murray asks Diana Rigg, a member of the Montblanc de la Culture jury, where there is still a need for patronage of the arts
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent
12.00 News; You and Yours: With Tasneem Siddiqi
12.25pm Questions of Taste: Chris Kelly introduces highlights from the food-and-drink panel game (r) 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Hair of the Dog: In Lesley Dawes's black comedy, Brenda Blethyn plays Amy, a harassed housewife and mother of seven whose husband finds himself in the arms of their glamorous next-door neighbour. With David Horovitch and Kate Buffery (r)
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehan and guests
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Paul Allen explores the relationship between author and director during the staging of new plays
4.45 Short Story: Her Victory. Sunny Ormonde reads Clive Collins's story
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Paradise Lost in Space: David Haig stars in Colin Swash's six-part space-age comedy as a failed hijacker and a lunar timeshare salesman stranded on a planet of friendly aliens
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Soundtrack: See Choice
8.00 Analysis: John Bull's Schooldays. Melanie Phillips looks at English education
8.45 Stranger than Fiction: Tim Parks, a writer of black comedies, starts a weekly six-part series for Lent in which a leading novelist considers the Gospel accounts of the trial and death of Jesus
9.00 Does He Take Sugar?
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Archy and Mehitabel, by Don Marquis (4/8)
11.00 Ten Pounds and a Box of Kippers: Final part
11.30-12.00 Postcard from Gotham (FM only): Joe Queenan presents more insiders' views of the week's stories in America
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)
12.00-12.43am News incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping 12.43 As World Service (LW)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. TALK RADIO: MW 1089, 1053kHz. Listings compiled by Linda Galloway and Sarah Harding

هكذا من الاصل

Return of a gong show in a class of its own

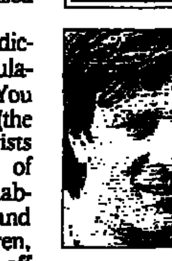
John Major's new classless honours system ought to have done for **Hearts of Gold** (BBC 1). Now that decades of selfless dedication to things such as road-crossing and rural post offices are rewarded with the same gongs handed out to those who have shamelessly dedicated decades to political crawling, there should be no need for a programme that goes round tying a little blue ribbon with a gold heart on to "unsung heroes" everywhere.

But there is, it appears. All over the country unsung heroes have emerged from dark and dangerous places to say: "You can stick your MBE, Mr Major. What we want is a Heart of Gold and we want Esther Rantzen to pin it on us." Yes, she's back. Making her entrance again (cue studio applause) with her usual flair (an Armani-ish russet creation that embraced — quite successfully — the new, "difficult" on-the-knee hemline). Sure of her lines ("Hello — and welcome to a new series of *Hearts of Gold*") no one is there (some hope). Send in the unsung heroes.

"No one is safe from us on this show," promised Esther, with that well-practised, threatening twinkle. She was right. Anyone who has surprisingly found themselves roped into a BBC documentary in the last few months and has ever done a good turn in their life should be afraid — very afraid. For this is Esther's favourite line: "Do you remember that documentary you made about hill-walking/ inner-city children/ falling over in the street?" Having been struck dumb — presumably by the uncanny resemblance of Esther's co-conspirator, Mickey Hutton, to the young Bob Monkhouse — our unsung, and now mute, hero nods. "Well, actually it was for *Hearts of Gold*." Cue open-mouthed incredulity, followed by sheepish grin, followed by affectionate threat to the nearest and dearest who has by now mysteriously materialised next to them on the sofa.

Familiar, formulaic and addictive. Good works have a cumulative effect on the human brain. You start off in scoffing mode (the Rantzen response, as psychiatrists call it) but after 50 minutes of unrelenting goodness you're dabbing gently at your eyes and resolving to be nicer to children, animals and people who fall off mountains.

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

Cleverly, the programme mixes genuine heroism (the nurse working with Romanian orphans suffering from Aids, the naval enthusiast who's been running the sea cadets in Lambeth for 40 years) with ordinary people who have simply done the right thing. After all, if you're walking in Snowdonia, and your companion falls 500 feet down the mountain, you don't shout: "Sorry Dave, but I'm dying for a pint: 'Bye,' you go and get help. Such episodes could, and to some extent do, belittle the more remarkable feats of human endeavour, but they make the programme more accessible. Nearly everyone has a similar tale to tell.

Nevertheless, the programme still has a self-righteous air of over-rehearsed smugness that makes one long for something to go wrong. "Have you heard of a programme called *Hearts of Gold*?" asks Carol Smillie brightly and often. If only someone would say no. "Who is you favourite showjumper?" asked the treacly Esther. "John Whittaker," came the replay. "Damn, we booked Harvey Smith." No, that didn't happen either.

While BBC 1 was being engulfed in good works, Channel 4 was in distinct danger of being swamped in saccharine. Nesta Wynn Ellis, the Prime Minister's extraordinary biographer, was stuck in the **Out of Order** lift with that queen of journalistic spleen, Nina Myskow. The unlikely subject for debate was the sexiness, or otherwise, of John Major. The problem was that Wynn Ellis had chosen to meet Myskow's bile with a simpering smile.

Of course, the argument could have been over a lot sooner had Wynn Ellis simply lent forward and smothered Myskow with the sort of cleavage that could get her arrested for carrying an offensive weapon. I feared for the brave cameraman providing overhead shots of the two combatants — one slip and the Wonderbra would claim its first fatality.

"Looking at your outfit, I don't think you're claustrophobic," said Myskow. It was her best shot. All her others were smothered by Wynn Ellis's repeated protests that Major wasn't at all dull in private. "He swamps you with charm," she twittered. "It's devastating."

Come on, protested Myskow for the umpteenth time. No really, replied Wynn Ellis, "in a MORI poll, 87 per cent of women thought John Major was sexy." Actually, her mid-Atlantic accent made it sound more like a Morag poll. But I was still not convinced. Surely 87 per cent of Morags have better taste.

Finally, and they don't come much more finally than a programme that starts at midnight, let us turn to the **Stand-Up Show** (BBC 1). Why is a programme so funny put on so late? True, some of Donna Macphail's act last night was not the sort of thing you want creeping up on you directly after the watershed, but the programme — with three different comics each week — looks tailor-made for one of the later slots in BBC 2's Friday night battle with Channel 4.

Compere Barry Cryer bridges the gap between establishment comedy and the alternative circuit with considerable charm — "the only real difference between older comics and younger comics is that the younger comics don't play golf" — and a very good but silent impersonation of the Queen. But after 100 minutes in the company of Des Lynam and *Sportsnight*, not a lot of people will know that.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (38712) **7.00 BBC Breakfast News** (95397170)

9.05 Kilroy. Studio talkshow (s) (5448441)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7833422) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days.** Michelle and Sharon's friendship is under strain. (Ceefax) (r) (8840625)

10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Family news magazine (s) (7192489)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1691880) **12.05pm Pebble Mill** (7467793) **12.55 Regional news** (Ceefax) and weather (15007199)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (60462)

1.30 Neighbours. Michael and Danni cherish their last minutes together (Ceefax) (s) (77744373) **1.50 Going for Gold.** Quiz show with Henry Kelly (s) (77755489)

2.15 FILM: Where the Lilies Bloom (1974) with Julie Gholson and Harry Dean Stanton. Four siblings try to keep their father's death a secret (460460)

3.50 Jackanory: Whose Story Is It Anyway? (s) (8024267) **4.00 Robinson Sucroe.** *Love at First Kite* (Ceefax) (9251064) **4.25 Animal Hospital** (s) (4405248) **4.35 Mud** (Ceefax) (s) (1736083)

5.00 Newsround (6006151)

5.10 Blue Peter. The DIY children's show (Ceefax) (s) (8087847)

5.35 Neighbours (Ceefax) (r) (s) (451828) **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster (451828) 6.30 Neighbours (335) (Ceefax) (r) (s) 10.10 Spotlight (326915) 10.40 Question Time (261712) 11.40 Cagney and Lacey (835731) 12.30 FILM: Roadhouse 66 (1984) (88942)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (593)

6.30 Regional news magazines (335)

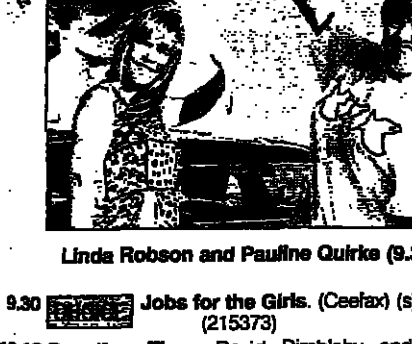
7.00 Top of the Pops (Ceefax) (s) (6996)

7.30 EastEnders. Michelle and Arthur argue over Geoff's proposal. (Ceefax) (s) (847)

8.00 Animal Hospital Week. Rolf Harris and Steve Knight at the 24-hour RSPCA Harmsworth Hospital for Sick Pets. (Ceefax) (s) (5644)

8.30 Crown Prosecutor. Marty has a tough time. (Ceefax) (s) (4151)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8199)



Linda Robson and Pauline Quirke (9.30pm)

9.30 Jobs for the Girls. (Ceefax) (s) (215373)

10.10 Question Time. David Dimbleby and guests answer questions in Leicester (Ceefax) (562793) **Wales:** The Slate *Man's Too Strong* (s) (326915) 10.40 Question Time (Ceefax) (261712) 11.40 Cagney and Lacey (835731) 12.25am FILM: When He's Not a Stranger (1984497) 1.55 News, weather (6847774)

11.10 Cagney and Lacey: Friendly Smoke. (Ceefax) (r) (129422)

12.00 FILM: When He's Not a Stranger (1989). A college student has her life shattered when she is raped by a campus colleague (90229)

1.30am Weather (6762039)

BBC 2

6.20 Open University Biology (7314118) **6.45** Caring for Data (2160002) **7.10** Linkage Mechanisms (5450248) **7.35** Earthquakes (5053373)

8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax) (Signed) (6727083) **8.15 Westminster On-Line with Andrew Neil** (s) (4215606) **9.00 Square One TV** (5510828) **9.20** Mathsphere (s) (5590064) **9.40** You and Me (9292354) **9.45** Come Outside (s) (5671809) **10.00** Playdays (r) (s) (8851731) **10.25** Ghostwriter (s) (8861118) **Northern Ireland:** History **10.55 Watch: Homes across Europe** (Ceefax) (s) (4900880) **11.10** Health 2 (s) (6932489) **11.30** Landmarks (Ceefax) (s) (9321422) **11.50** Mad About Music (s) (4160199) **12.10pm** Short Circuit (5110538)

12.30 Working Lunch. Business news (50248) **1.00** Lifeschool (s) (57063809) **1.25** History File (87750151) **1.45** Storytime (25330199) **2.00** Stoppit and Tidyup (r) (65989199) **2.05** Puppydog Tales (r) (s) (65971170)

2.10 Next with Marti Caine (s) (74713847) **2.35 From the Edge** (Ceefax) (7115793)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Westminster with Nick Ross** (Ceefax) (4333915)

3.50 News (Ceefax) and weather (8022809) **4.00 Today's the Day** (s) (248) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (17489)

5.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show: The Middle Class Drug Problem (s) (701460)

5.40 The World Figure Skating Championships. From Birmingham (591828)

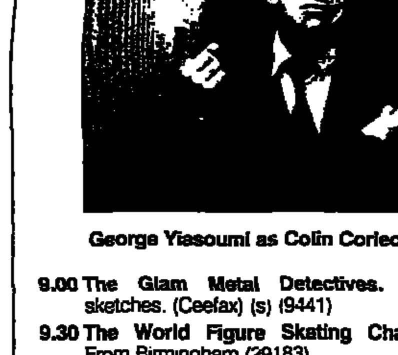
6.15 Quantum Leap. Sam has to prevent the murder of a priest. (Ceefax) (r) (s) (108267)

7.00 Waiting for God (Ceefax) (r) (s) (4538)

7.30 First Sight: Dear Mrs Bottomley Wales: First Sight **Northern Ireland:** Sceal Dha Chistin (489) 7.35 Country Times (r)

8.00 Life with Fred (Ceefax) (r) (s) (3286) **Northern Ireland:** Gaeiscoil

8.30 Top Gear (Ceefax) (s) (2793)



George Yiasoumi as Colin Corleone (9.00pm)

9.00 The Glam Metal Detectives. More comic sketches. (Ceefax) (s) (9441)

9.30 The World Figure Skating Championships. From Birmingham (29183)

10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (513712)

11.15 Late Review (s) (475248) **11.55** Weatherview (824880) **12.00 Open View** (5385316) **12.05am The Chemistry of Survival** (4443300) **12.30 The Record** (s) (3925942). Ends at **1.00**

4.30 BBC Select: Developing Family Literacy (66590) followed by **Strathclyde TV — Putting You In the Picture** (39958) **5.30 RCN Nursing Update** (46364)

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CHOICE



Fateful meeting for Havers, Ward (ITV, 9.00pm)

Chiller
ITV, 9.00pm

Hardly have the final credits rolled on BBC1's *Ghosts* than the rival channel comes up with its tales of the supernatural. Five single dramas kick off with *Prophecy*, a story by Peter James in which a group of students, including aspiring archaeologist Frannie (Sophie Ward), hold a seance. It turns out to be a bad idea since over the years most of them suffer premature deaths. The explanation seems to lie in the family of Oliver (Nigel Havers), whose ancestors include a 16th-century satanist murdered by Cromwell's troops. It only remains for the script to bring Frannie and Oliver together. Thanks to one of the many extraordinary coincidences on which the story relies, a meeting is duly contrived. Be prepared for twists and shocks.

Secret Lives: Mountbatten
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Lord Louis Mountbatten, according to this unflattering profile, worked tirelessly to ensure that history gave him a favourable verdict. He even masterminded the details of his own state funeral, and the manipulation continued from beyond the grave. Stripping away the veneer, the programme highlights his accident-prone naval career, his culpability for the disastrous Dieppe raid and the tragic results of his determination to hurry through Indian independence. His unhappy marriage is also laid bare. Contributors include Mountbatten's daughters, his official biographer, Philip Ziegler, and a recent debunker, Andrew Roberts. Ziegler has the last word. Despite everything, he says, Mountbatten was a great man.

Jobs For the Girls
BBC1, 9.30pm

Non-anglers who think that the sport consists of long hours on river banks waiting for something to happen will find their prejudices confirmed as Pauline Quirke and Linda Robson try to get hooked on fishing. They have six weeks in which to become good enough to lead opposing teams in a freshwater and deep-sea match off the Isle of Wight. Jokes centre on the cold and the damp, on not being able to break off to spend a penny and pathetically modest catches. Luckily, the show's budget stretches to a visit to Florida, where, in contrast to a perpetually gloomy England, the sun never fails to shine. Other diversions include a visit to trout farmer (and singer) Roger Daltry. The maggots are the biggest and creepiest you are likely to see.

Alien Nations
Channel 4, 8.00pm

Andy Kershaw puts on his fur hat and makes for the most northern point of Europe. His search for European minorities takes him to Norway and features the Samis, a nomadic tribe that lives by herding reindeer. There are 40,000 of these people in Norway and more in Sweden, Finland and Russia. In the early part of the century, Norway tried to Norwegianise them. Now, having unsuccessfully contested a hydro-electric project, they face the intrusion of multinational companies exploring for diamonds. Despite his jocular manner, Kershaw is an intelligent reporter, sensitive towards his subject without being sentimental.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (7806977)

9.25 Chain Letters (s) (3241809) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8838880)

10.00 The Time ... the Place. Members of a studio audience discuss a topical issue. With, John Stapleton (s) (7963460)

10.35 This Morning (26520731) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1697064)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (2176847)

12.55 Emmerdale (r). (Teletext) (2151538) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (57068354)

1.55 Vanessa. Vanessa Feltz discusses the issue of gay parenting. (Teletext) (s) (35938847) **2.25 A Country Practice** (s) (74705828)

2.50 Gardeners' Diary. John Ravenscroft plants gladioli while Anthony Henn spring-prunes shrubs (7216002) **3.20 ITN News** headlines (Teletext) (6045441) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6044712)

3.30 The Riddlers (r) (2119731) **3.40 Wizadora** (r) (s) (8013151) **3.50 Rupert** (r) (2693557) **4.15 Mike and Angelo** (s) (6466538) **4.40 Fun House** with Pat Sharp. (Teletext) (s) (9090625)

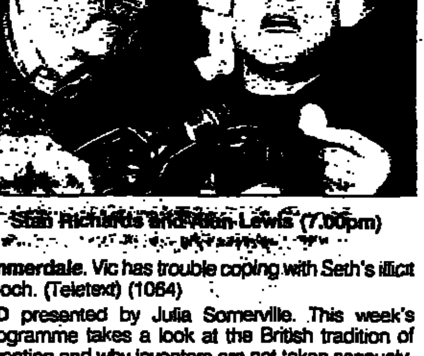
5.10 After 5 (Teletext) (6221354)

5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (785422)

5.55 Your Shout (624828)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (151)

6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (731)



Stan Richards and Alan Lewis (7.00pm)

7.00 Emmerdale. Vic has trouble coping with Seth's illicit hooch. (Teletext) (1064)

7.30 3-D presented by Julia Somerville. This week's programme takes a look at the British tradition of invention and why inventors are not taken seriously. Plus, the dangers of bull bars, a car fashion accessory (s) (915)

8.00 The Bill: Flora and Fauna. Hollis's green fingers cause havoc. (Teletext) (3192)

8.30 The Trouble with Mr Bean starring Rowan Atkinson (r) (s) (9847)

9.00 Chiller: Prophecy (Teletext) (s) (6083)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (39267)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (276809)

10.40 Revelations (s) (156688)

11.10 Big City (633170)

11.40 The Powers That Be. The life and times of an American senator and his family on Capitol Hill (162422)

12.15am The Little Picture Show (r) (419300)

1.15 The Beat (r) (s) (415584)

2.15 The Album Show (r) (s) (6887768)

3.10 America's Top Ten (r) (s) (68165652)

3.35 Sport AM (r) (8159720)

4.30 Videofashion (r) (60316)

5.00 Vanessa (r) (s) (53584)

5.30 ITN Morning News (98010). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Sandokan (r) (2171118)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (21373)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (49644)

9.30 Schools: Middle English (5661422) **9.45** The New Living Body (5555731) **10.05** Scientific Eye (8845170) **10.27** Geographical Eye Over Africa (6180606) **10.50** Your World (6352267) **11.00** History in Action (6921373) **11.20** Earth — The Home Planet (6535335) **11.40** The German Programme (4159083)

12.00 House To House. Political magazine chaired by Maya Even (29880) **12.30 Sesame Street** (98151)

1.30 The Wonderful Wizard Of Oz. Animated adventures (r) (s) (35911170)

1.55 Spacebourne. Images of space provided by Nasa (77758118)

2.15 FILM: Beyond the Forest (1949, b/w) starring Bette Davis, Joseph Cotten and David Brian. Small-town America melodrama about a bitchy doctor's wife. Directed by King Vidor (498118)

3.55 From the Horses Mouth. The bookmaker. Narrated by John Hurt (s) (5782267)

4.30 Countdown. Another round of the words and numbers game. (Teletext) (s) (828)

5.00 Ricki Lake. A discussion on the different ways men and women see things. (Teletext) (s) (8166557) **5.50 Terrytoons** (607151)

6.00 The Cosby Show. American domestic comedy (r). (Teletext) (793)

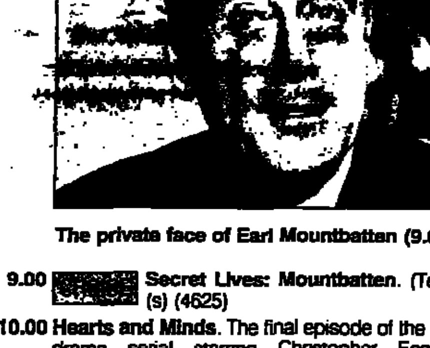
6.30 Saved By the Bell. Comedy. (Teletext) (373)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (968996)

7.50 The Slot. Viewers' video soapbox (513828)

8.00 Alien Nations. (Teletext) (s) (8354)

8.30 The Pulse. The last in the medical magazine series, presented by Shahnaz Pakravan. (Teletext) (s) (7489)



The private face of Earl Mountbatten (9.00pm)

9.00 Secret Lives: Mountbatten. (Teletext) (s) (4625)

10.00 Hearts and Minds. The final episode of the school drama serial starring Christopher Eccleston. (Teletext) (s) (6321847)

11.05 Adult Oprah. The guests are woman who were abused and made pregnant by their fathers. (Teletext) (s) (155847)

11.55 The Obituary Show. A spoof celebratory obituary celebrating the life and career of Norman Wisdom (r) (226064)

12.25am Dispatches (r). (Teletext) (8885768)

1.15 American Patchwork: Appalachian Journey. The first of a two-part programme about the songs and stories of America, presented by Alan Lomax (r) (7016671)

2.30 Puttin' On the Ritz. Animation based on the Fred Astaire song (3383478)

2.35 FILM: *The Meanest Man in the World* (1943, b/w) starring Jack Benny as a small-town lawyer who receives a rough deal from his prospective father-in-law. Directed by Sidney Lanfield (4207126). Ends at **3.40**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: **1.55** The Young Doctors (77749828) **2.50-3.20** Take the High Road (7216002) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News and Weather (6044712) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6221354) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (485828) **10.40** Cover Story (156688) **11.10** Side Effects (138170) **12.05am** Married with Children (4447126) **12.30** Dragon Rapide (24107) **2.30** The Beat (2549497) **3.25** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (68160107) **3.50** Quiz Night (82279923) **4.15-5.00** Donahue (8938478)

CENTRAL

As London except: **1.55** A Country Practice (77749828) **2.50-3.20** Take the High Road (7216002) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6221354) **6.25** Central News and Weather (996557) **6.55-7.00** Life Line (290170) **11.10** Side Effects (856064) **12.10am-12.15** Curtis Calls (4610861) **4.30** Jobfinder (5056590) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (7258836)

GRANADA

As London except: **12.55** Shortland Street (2151538) **1.25** Home and Away (87778557) **1.50** Vanessa (35906248) **2.20** The Main Ingredient (74797809) **2.50-3.20** Emmerdale (7216002) **3.25-3.30** Granada News (6044712) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6221354) **6.25** Granada Tonight (485828) **7.00-7.30** Emmerdale (1064) **10.30** Granada News (276809) **10.40** Revelations (156688) **11.40** The Powers That Be (239538) **12.10am** Curtis Calls (4610861) **12.15** The Little Picture Show (419300) **1.15** The Beat (415584) **2.15** The Album Show (6887768) **3.10** America's Top Ten (68165652) **3.35** Sport AM (8159720) **4.30** Jobfinder (60316) **5.00-5.30** Vanessa (53584)

HTV WEST

As London except: **2.25** Gardening Time (74789880) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (7122083) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6221354) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (731) **10.30** HTV West Headlines (276809) **10.40** Getaways (156688) **11.10** The West This Week (633170) **11.40-12.15pm** Good Health! (162422) **4.30am-5.00** Jobfinder (60316)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (731) **7.30-8.00** Wales This Week (915) **10.40** Welsh & Wealthy (156688) **11.10** Grass Roots (633170) **11.40-12.15pm** 3-D (162422)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 12.20pm-12.30 **Meridian News and Weather (1697064)** 1.55 A **Country Practice (77749828)** 2.50-3.20 Shortland Street (7216002) 3.25-3.30 **Meridian News and Weather (6044712)** 5.10 **Home and Away (6221354)** 5.37-5.40 **Crimestoppers (604064)** 6.00 **Meridian Tonight (151)** 6.30-7.00 **Getaways (731)** 10.30 **Meridian News (276809)** 10.40 **Tricks of the Trade (53229118)** 12.30am **Dragon Rapide (24107)** 2.30 **The Beat (8549497)** 3.25 **Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (68160107)** 3.50 **Quiz Night (82279923)** 4.15 **Donahue (8938478)** 5.00-5.30 **Freescreen (53584)**

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: **9.55-10.00** Westcountry News (8838880) **12.20pm** Westcountry News (1606712) **12.25-12.30** My Story (1605083) **2.25** Wish You Were Here ...? (74789880) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry News, Weather (6044712) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6221354) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (55793) **10.30** Westcountry News, Weather (276809) **10.40** Married with Children (156688) **11.10-12.15pm** Prisoner Cell Block H (161118) **4.30am-5.00** Jobfinder (60316)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: **9.55-10.00** Calendar News and Weather (8838880) **12.20pm-12.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News and Weather / Bilsdale: Network North (1697064) **1.55** A Country Practice (77749828) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7216002) **3.25-3.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News / Bilsdale: Network North (6044712) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6221354) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (578977) **6.30-7.00** Crosswits (731) **10.30** Calendar News and Weather (276809) **10.40** Edit V (506422) **11.25** Prisoner Cell Block H (133625) **12.20am** In the Line of Duty: Mob Justice (667687) **2.05** America's Top Ten (7510836) **2.35** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (7538132) **3.05** Joey Boy (3300580) **4.35-5.30** Jobfinder (3145403)

S4C

Starts: **7.00** The Big Breakfast (21373) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (49644) **9.30** Ysgolion (364460) **12.00pm** House To House (29880) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (78644) **1.00** Take Five (24460) **1.30** Journeyman (77915) **2.00** Keepers Of The Kingdom. Bones Of Contention (99286) **3.00** J' Accuse. The National Trust (7625) **3.30** Ricki Lake (2939793) **4.20** Tales Of A Wise King (4422915) **4.30** The Cosby Show (828) **5.00** 5 Pump (7227644) **5.15** 5 Pump (6018996) **5.30** Countdown (880) **6.00** Newyddion (335422) **6.15** Heno (193335) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (9606) **7.30** Teulu (39422) **8.30** Newyddion (7489) **9.00** Y Pen Bas, Y Pen Dwfn (4625) **10.00** Rising Damp (37809) **10.30** Hearts And Minds (4179441) **11.35** Hear My Song (960002)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am The DJ Kat Show (80847) **8.00** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (93489) **8.30** Blockbusters (85460) **9.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (26489) **10.00** Concentration (25625) **10.30** Card Sharks (72996) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (66460) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (63248) **12.30pm** Anything But Love (55052) **1.00** St Elsewhere (58147) **2.00** If Tomorrow Comes (26354) **3.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (8350731) **3.50** The DJ Kat Show (4275199) **3.55** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (9832489) **4.30** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (9354) **5.00** Saga of Star Trek (8373) **6.00** Gamesworld (1737) **6.30** Family Ties (1199) **7.00** Rescue (9002) **7.30** M*A*S*H (1593) **8.00** Manhunter (47712) **9.00** Under Suspicion (34248) **10.00** Saga of Star Trek (37335) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (761422) **11.50** Littlejohn (453151) **12.40am** Chances (3453720) **1.30** The New WKRP in Cincinnati (46855) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix Long Play (2487756)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise (1671335) **9.30** News Extra (76002) **10.30** ABC Nightline (70538) **1.30pm** CBS News (39083) **2.30** Parliament Live (73809) **6.05** Richard Littlejohn (19577606) **9.30** OJ Simpson Trial (503422) **12.30am** CBS News (56774) **1.30** News Extra (88872) **2.30** Parliament Replay (38313) **4.30** CBS News (31774) **5.30** ABC News (47300)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (1521335) **10.00 The Portrait** (1992) (16828) **12.00 Author! Author!** (1982) (30557) **2.00pm Mr Billion** (1977)(51915) **4.00 Bloomfield** (1969) (7967) **6.00 The Portrait** (39098) **7.30 News Week In Review** (5151) **8.00 Leap of Faith** (1992) (43996) **10.00 Boiling Point** (1993)(6960002) **1.20am Murder on the Rio Grande** (1993)(695661) **2.55 Bitter Moon** (1992) (9620328) **3.25 The Murders in the Rue Morgue** (1971) (19870132)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm The Enemy Below (1957) (11335) **8.00 Separate Tables** (1958) (16880) **10.00-12.00 Missing In Action 2 — The Beginning** (1985) (92712)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Mutiny on the Buses (1973) (73557) **8.00 Barnum** (1984) (15248) **10.00 Wild is the Wind** (1957)(55070) **12.00 Tarzan's Desert Mystery** (1943) (8524083) **1.15pm Goldilocks and the Three Bears** (1292977) **2.10 Seconds** (1966)(738248) **4.00 Barnum** (1984) (1847) **6.00 A Place for Annie** (39793) **8.00 Mood Indigo: Mind of a Killer** (1992) (73760373) **9.40 Gladiator** (1992) (123165) **11.25 Birds in Paradise II** (1993) (24036286) **1.50am Death in Small Doses** (1993) (8498687) **2.25 Cinderella Liberty** (1973)(929126) **4.20 Abbott and Costello in the Foreign Legion** (1950) (917346)

● **For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY SPORTS

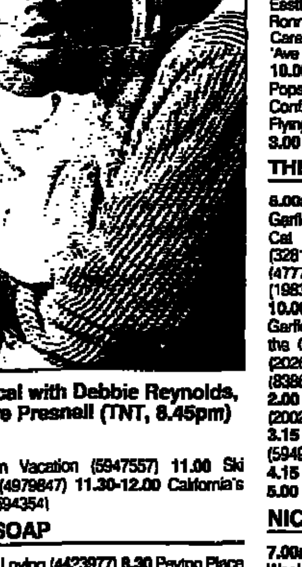
7.00am Soccer News (4980151) **7.15** WWF Challenge (658793) **8.15** Ladbrokes Soccer News (2903880) **8.30** National Trails (10731) **9.00** Freestyle Skiing (92593) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (36267) **10.00** The Rugby Club (24642) **11.00** Get Your Handicap Down (67002) **11.30** Fish Tales (4211335) **11.45** Sky Sports Classics (4249118) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (21847) **12.30pm** NBA Basketball (30199) **2.30** Cycling (4444) **3.00** The Rugby Club (79847) **4.00** American Sports Cavalcade (58354) **5.00** WWF Action Zone (4199) **6.00** Soccer News (439847) **6.15** Fish Tales (427002) **6.30** World of Rugby Union (5373) **7.00** Transworld Sport (74880) **8.00** Andy Gray's Bootroom (90828) **9.00** US PGA Seniors (83915) **11.00** Soccer News (171737) **11.15** World of Rugby Union (312354) **11.45** Fish Tales (759977) **12.00** Transworld Sport (24010) **1.00-2.00am** Andy Gray's Bootroom (81045)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Equestrianism (57354) **8.30** Figure Skating (25441) **10.00** Dancing (91170) **11.00** Motors (88608) **12.00** Live Freestyle Skiing (44286) **1.00pm** Eurofun (82422) **1.30** Tennis (24422) **2.00** Live Figure Skating (422118) **5.00** Live Nordic Skiing (50625) **6.30** Eurosport News (9511) **7.00** Live Figure Skating (123335) **10.00** Wrestling (69737) **11.00** Golf (74128) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (79923)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Getaway — Australia (4426064) **12.30pm** Zoo Life (1659118) **1.00** Cruising the Globe (9949373) **1.30** Cook Italian (1658489) **2.00** California's Gold (7205712) **2.30** Video Trips (4085118) **3.00** Pastel Paradise (4059083) **4.00** Travel Guide (4069170) **4.30** Zoo Life (4065354) **5.00** Ski Perfect (7296064) **5.30** Cook Italian (4056606) **6.00** Getaway (4066847) **6.30** Round Trip (4077199) **7.00** American Vacation (5948286) **8.00** Around The World in 30 Minutes (7292248) **8.30** Travel Guide (7204083) **9.00** Getaway(4967002) **9.30** Round Trip — Los Angeles (1639354) **10.00**



Musical with Debbie Reynolds, Harve Presnell (TNT, 8.45pm)

American Vacation (5947557) **11.00** Ski Perfect (4979847) **11.30-12.00** California's Gold (4594354)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (4423977) **8.30** Peyton Place (4422248) **9.00** As the World Turns (4639606) **10.00** Guiding Light (9925793) **11.00-12.00** Another World (9945557)

TLC

9.00am Tonia Todman's Craft Room (2206880) **9.30** A Taste of Japan (5424996) **10.00** Jimmy's (2245354) **10.30** Only Human (1513557) **11.30** Real Life (1169539) **12.00** Private Lives (2226644) **12.30pm** Park High (5426712) **1.00** A Taste of Japan (8813118) **1.30** Tonia Todman's Craft Room (5427083) **2.00** You and Your Cat (9191880) **2.45** Draw with Don (6492460) **3.00** Secret Gardens (2387880) **3.30-4.00** Furniture to Go (1366996)

UK GOLD

7.00am Give Us a Clue (8883977) **7.30** Neighbours (8895712) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2225915) **8.30** EastEnders (2224286) **9.00** The Bill (2215538) **9.30** Colditz (5227422) **10.30** Angels (1515915) **11.30** Terry and June (9369557) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2228002) **12.30pm** Neighbours (5420170) **1.00** EastEnders (8882248) **1.30** The Bill (5429441) **2.00** Father, Dear Father (2300731) **2.30** I Didn't Know You Cared (1383809) **3.00** Knots Landing (5769593) **4.00** Dallas (2719278) **5.00** Every Second Counts (9098002) **5.35** Dick Emery (4685642) **5.50** Hi-De-Hi (4184731) **6.30** EastEnders (1388118) **7.00** The Two Ronnies (9084248) **8.00** I Didn't Know You Cared (2397267) **8.30** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em (2309002) **9.00** Minder (9006460) **10.00** The Bill (2229731) **10.30** Top of the Pops: The 80s (6997335) **11.05** Carrott Confidential (8005002) **12.15am** FILM: The Flying Leathernecks (1951) (1307497) **2.05-3.00** Shopping at Night (1447749)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (6360151) **6.55** Garfield and Friends (7837625) **7.25** Eek the Cat (6825286) **7.55** Degrassi Junior High (3281088) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (4777712) **8.45** Casper and Friends (1983915) **9.00** Sesame Street (99373) **10.00** It's Droibee Time (67151) **12.00** Garfield and Friends (49267) **12.30pm** Eek the Cat (81731) **1.00** Beverly Hills Teens (20267) **1.30** Super Mario Brothers (83864441) **1.45** Baby Follies (83869896) **2.00** Barney and Friends (1880) **2.30** Babar (2002) **3.00** Casper and Friends (1006460) **3.15** Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventures (594996) **3.45** Sonic the Hedgehog (593267) **4.15** Head to Head in 3D (1602083) **4.30-5.00** California Dreams (9638)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickalvel (4988793) **7.15** Pee Wee's Playhouse (605441) **7.45** Rugrats (604712) **8.15** Doug (797996) **8.45** Nickalvel (8613480) **9.00** Nick Jr. (476064) **12.00** Pee Wee's Playhouse (29489) **12.30pm** The Muppet Show (38625) **1.00** Smoggies (85996) **1.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (37996) **2.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (2354) **2.30** Galaxy High School (8606) **3.00** Attack of the Killer Tomatoes (1489) **3.30** Teenage Mutant (3151) **4.00** Doug (2286) **4.30** Rugrats (1170) **5.00** Clarissa (3606) **5.30** Nickalvel (2422) **6.00** Grimmy (9335) **6.30-7.00** Dracula (3915)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Charlottes (8014660) **5.00** Around Whicker's World (91447083) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (4789998) **7.00** From Monkeys to Apes (2319489) **7.30** An African Ride (1375644) **8.00** History's Mysteries (2395809) **8.30** World of Adventures (2307644) **9.00** Special Forces (2614624) **9.30** Those Who Dare (5415248) **10.00** Blood, Sweat and Glory (9014489) **11.00** Charlie Bravo (3169719) **11.30-12.00** The Global Family (2241538)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: Daybreak (1946) (6294373) **1.30pm** Smothers Brothers (5421809) **2.00** thirtysomething (2240809) **3.00** Rat Patrol (2381606) **3.30** Hogan's Heroes (1353422) **4.00** FILM: Can't Stop the Music (1980) (2385422) **6.00** Get Smart (1359606) **6.30** FILM: Master of the World (1961) (6295489) **8.00** thirtysomething (9088084) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (2519070) **9.30** FILM: Rattle of a Simple Man (1964) (5082002) **11.30-12.00** Hogan's Heroes (2238064)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (6284712) **7.00** Living (8792170) **8.00** The Treatment (1982511) **8.30** Rendezvous (2332052) **9.00** Go For It (8637444) **9.30** Kate and Allie (7578538) **10.05** Now You See It (9685034) **10.30** The Susan Powter Show (2237408) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (7203625) **12.00** John Tovey (6866915) **12.35pm** Rendezvous (48443793) **1.05** Kilroy (8403538) **2.00** Agony Hour (1183286) **3.00** Living (7868248) **3.45** Gladrags and Glamour (65372793) **4.00** Infatuation (8406267) **4.30** Crosswits (9495151) **5.00** Masterchef (3629084) **5.35** The New Mr and Mrs Show (7235644) **6.05** The Susan Powter Show (8575118) **6.30** Brookside (9407996) **7.00** Living (9949170) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (9965118) **9.00** Women of Brewster Place (98376373) **10.55** Sneak Scenes — Stargate (7299098) **11.00** Brookside (1728248) **11.30-12.00** Infatuation UK (1171441)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00am Dangermouse (5460) **5.30** Where I Live (3118) **6.00** Black Stallion (717002) **6.25** All Clued Up (367083) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (2996) **7.30** My Two Dads (5557) **8.00** Snowy River (25538) **9.00** Moonlighting (39002) **10.00** Catchphrase (40996) **10.30** GP (59644) **11.00** Lou Grant (30644) **12.00** Rhoda (28213) **12.30pm** Big Brother Jake (72590) **1.00** Dangermouse (81478) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit (22213) **2.00** Moonlighting (49652) **3.00** Lou Grant (83687) **4.00** Rhoda (65519) **4.30-5.00** Big Brother Jake (95671)

MTV

5.00am Awake on the Wildside (59213) **6.30** The Grind (11642) **7.00** Awake on the Wildside (93354) **8.00** VJ Ingo (315489) **11.00** The Soul (28809) **12.00** Greatest Hits (79886) **1.00** The Afternoon Mix (15847) **3.00** Sports (2373) **3.30** Coca Cola Report (8073539) **3.45** Cinematic (7528444) **4.00** News (1621118) **4.15** 3 from 1 (1604441) **4.30** Dial (1996) **5.00** Music (62118) **7.00** Greatest Hits (18248) **8.00** Most Wanted (63460) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (70625) **10.00** Coca Cola Report (387286) **10.15** Cinematic (375441) **10.30** News (274903) **10.45** 3 from 1 (224408) **11.00** The Pulse (95809) **11.30** The End? (49199) **1.00am** Soul (27861) **2.00** The Grind (70497) **2.30-5.00** Night Videos (9572836)

VH-1

7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (9948644) **9.00** Café (8260606) **12.00** The Bridge (1830083) **1.00pm** 1 to 1 (9941731) **1.30** Ten of the Best (9672828) **2.30** Heart and Soul (3740606) **3.30** Into the Music (7383557) **6.00** Prime Cuts (1636267) **7.00** For You (5940544) **8.00** Rock (5926064) **9.00** Ten of the Best (5946828) **10.00** The Bridge (4634880) **11.30** The Nightfly (9930170) **2.00am** Ten of the Best (6574120) **3.00-7.00** Dawn Patrol (7804126)

CMT EUROPE

Country music from **6am** to **7pm**, incl **5.00pm** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00-7.00** Big Ticket

ZEE TV

6.00am Persian Morning (62460977) **7.00** Asian Morning (80582354) **8.30** Fala Fut (75961422) **9.00** Hindi Movie (84178199) **12.00** Tara (75972538) **12.30pm** Chakravyuha (81812712) **1.00** Pakistani Movie (29157170) **4.00** Top Ten (34498460) **5.00** Teer Kaman (92462731) **5.30** Zee and U (78739915) **6.00** Yeh Hai Bombay Meri Jaan (78736828) **6.30** Janam Daata (78710880) **7.00** Var Var Parvar (92459267) **7.30** Dillagi (78716064) **8.00** News (92468915) **8.30** Andaz (92447422) **9.00** India Business Review (34495644) **9.30** Pakistan Business Update (81809248) **10.00** Zee Horror Show (75973267) **10.30** Sa Re Ga Na (75982915) **11.00** Haveli (34407489) **11.30** Wah Janab (49276064) **12.00** Asian Morning (30525768) **1.30am** Sight and Sound (46732872)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.
7.00pm Earl of Chicago (1940)(26023064) **8.45 Unsinkable Molly Brown** (1964) (57622644) **11.00 A Touch of the Sun** (1956) (22779489) **12.30am Silver Dollar** (1932) (48420229) **2.05 Woman In Red** (1935) (44460519) **3.25-5.00 Earl of Chicago** (1940) (95576861)

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news coverage and QVC is the home shopping channel

Illingworth gains greater control as manager's contract is ended

Fletcher feels the cutting edge

BY ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

ENGLISH cricket yesterday cleared a path through the debris of its Ashes debacle and acknowledged that only one man can run the national team. Raymond Illingworth now assumes full-time command of all team affairs after the dismissal of Keith Fletcher, the manager, with half of his five-year contract still to run.

Fletcher was told of his dismissal by Alan Smith, chief executive of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB), in a telephone call from the Alps, where he is on a skiing holiday. "He took it extremely well," Smith said, adding with genuine regret: "He is a delightful fellow."

Popular with all who met him, Fletcher, 50, had nevertheless lost the necessary respect of his players during the past 12 months. In Australia this winter, where England lost the Ashes series 3-1, he became increasingly remote from the team — even from the captain, Michael Atherton — and it was his inability to relate to the players, much less inspire them, which lost him his job. Since Fletcher succeeded Micky Stewart in 1993, England have lost 16 and won only five of 26 Tests.

"We believe we have to look elsewhere," Smith said, "for a man to rekindle the pride and the passion in playing for England, a motivator who is also an expert cricketer, somebody who will raise team spirit and get the best out of the individual players and the team as a whole."

In truth, to have kept Fletcher on would have been a dereliction of duty but the action taken yesterday by the traditionally tentative TCCB was unusually swift and strong. The decision was made by the powerful executive, which has 13 voting members including the chairmen of all the significant board committees. The dismissal will cost the counties more than £100,000 to pay off Fletcher's contract but this will be money well spent if a truly accountable figure is now at the helm, after a year in which it has been hard to discern who is in charge of what.

How much Illingworth will be paid for the expansion of his duties is not yet known. "Believe it or not we haven't even discussed it yet," he chortled yesterday. What is unarguable, however, is that he now has the job he wanted when he was first interviewed by the board ten years ago.

Illingworth had begun this week fearing that his power-base within the England team was about to be weakened by a change on the selection panel. Instead, after a late-night debate with the chairman of the board, Dennis Silk, he now finds himself with the scope he always craved.

Initially, he has agreed to a 12-month trial period in overall charge. His title will remain chairman of selectors but, when he takes charge of next winter's Test tour to South Africa, and the World Cup trip which follows, he will go in the guise of tour manager. This does not mean, however, that Illingworth will don a tracksuit and hit slip catches before home Tests or deal with airport buses and hotel bills when abroad. Assistants will be appointed to help on both the practice and administration fronts.

Illingworth had persistently protested that he did not seek the managerial role, claiming that he was too old. But this admirable compromise, which makes the best use of his knowledge and motivational qualities, was altogether too tempting. It was put to him by Silk at 1am on Tuesday, after a lengthy meeting of the board's executive committee had concluded that Fletcher should go. Illingworth needed little persuasion. "We spoke for about an hour," he said. "I was convinced by then. I won't be a tracksuit manager. I'll be around for net sessions and will help where needed, but I will put coaches in charge of fielding and such-like. My priorities will be team spirit, motivation and confidence. I believe in my ability to improve things, as I have done all through my career."

Illingworth never has been short of self-esteem. Indeed, his belief in his own publicity sometimes overwhelms him and prompts public comments which are ill-chosen, if not objectionable. His criticism of players has sometimes been poorly-timed and his reluctance to support Fletcher verbally was so consistent that the partnership could never have long-term aspirations.

Even yesterday, he declined to say anything in the way of a tribute to a man who, if nothing else, was caring and conscientious. This, however, is the man. Illingworth does things his way and has little time for those who differ. There will always be casualties of his regime but Atherton and his players will welcome him into the dressing-room as a unifying asset.

Illingworth also fought hard for the retention of his henchmen. Fred Titmus and Brian Bolus, on the selection panel but, in this, he has been only partly successful. Titmus will serve a second year but Bolus has been discarded in favour of David Graveney, 20 years younger and far closer to the modern game.

Even within this minor defeat, however, no damage has been done to Illingworth. Because he is now effectively filling two jobs, there will be only four selectors rather than five. As he retains a casting vote, his in-built majority is still in place.

"I have no axe to grind about Graveney," he said. "In fact we are both going to Spain tomorrow and will be staying about eight miles apart. I'll probably ring him up for a chat."

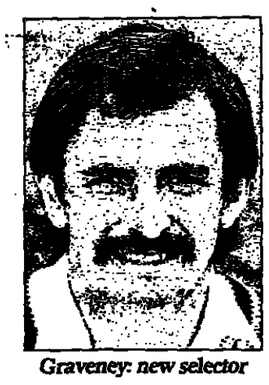
Graveney, 42, awaits the call. He believes that being a selector will not conflict with his job as the general secretary of the Cricketers' Association, on behalf of whom he is campaigning for improved pay for players. "The officers at the Cricketers' Association did not think there would be a clash of interests when they backed my candidature," he said. "Obviously, the counties don't think so either."

Illingworth, is in no doubt how much has to be done. "We have long-term problems and short-term problems," he said. "My immediate aim is to get the short-term right." The longer-term remains in the hands of the counties, who have agreed to overhaul the domestic structure in the autumn, with a view to possible changes for the 1997 season. The omens are not good, however. Yesterday, Benson and Hedges announced a five-year renewal for their sponsorship of the one-day competition that ought to have been pruned from the schedule before now.

Fletcher dismissed, page 1
Salim denial, page 45



Illingworth, left, and Fletcher formed an ill-fated partnership which failed to achieve the desired results for England. Photograph: Graham Morris



Graveney: new selector

England to play India in cricket veterans' semi-final

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

ENGLAND'S cricketing veterans beat their Australian counterparts by 14 runs in Bombay yesterday to set up a Masters Cup semi-final encounter with India today.

An unbroken 50-run stand in just six overs for the ninth wicket between Neal Radford and John Emburey helped England recover from a middle-order collapse to reach 268 for eight in their alloted 45 overs. Derek Randall had earlier made a fine half-century before falling to Graham Yallop for 62.

Needing to score at a rate of 5.75 runs an over, Australia were never really in the hunt, although most of their batsmen did get some runs. Spin bowlers Derek Underwood and John Emburey both performed well and took two wickets each. They were supported by some impressive English fielding.

The Australians found stroke-making difficult as the pitch played slow and low. After 45 overs they were stranded on 254 for five.

West Indies will play South Africa in the other semi-final tomorrow after the South Africans beat Sri Lanka by six wickets on Tuesday, thanks largely to an unbeaten innings of 94 from Henry Fotheringham. The semi-final victors are scheduled to meet in the final on Sunday.

SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND

W Larkins c Dyer b Whitney	18
C W J Athey lbw b Lawson	32
R T Robinson run out	15
*M W Gatting b Yardley	35
D W Randall b Yallop	62
C S Cowdrey c Dyson b Yardley	26
D R Pringle b Whitney	5
†P R Downton lbw b Whitney	0
N V Radford not out	36
J E Emburey not out	18
Extras (b5, lb9, nb1, w7)	21
Total (45 overs, 8 wkts)	268

D L Underwood did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-44, 2-89, 3-77, 4-153, 5-204, 6-207, 7-208, 8-218.

BOWLING: Alderman 9-0-37-0, Whitney 9-0-40-3; Lawson 9-0-62-1, Yardley 9-0-65-2; Yallop 9-0-61-1

AUSTRALIA

B M Laird b Underwood	45
J Dyson run out	44
G N Yallop b Emburey	37
K J Hughes lbw b Underwood	12
W B Phillips b Emburey	49
†G C Dyer not out	33
G M Wood not out	18
Extras (lb4, nb1, w11)	16
Total (45 overs, 5 wkts)	254

B Yardley, T M Alderman, *G F Lawson and M R Whitney did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-88, 2-101, 3-126, 4-195, 5-204.

BOWLING: Radford 9-0-71-0; Pringle 9-0-44-0; Emburey 9-0-40-2; Underwood 9-1-36-2; Cowdrey 5-0-30-0; Athey 4-0-29-0.

Man of the match: D W Randall (England)

Arsenal dismiss rumours of Wright's departure

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

ARSENAL yesterday dismissed reports that Ian Wright, their England striker, might join Celtic. It had been reported that Celtic were prepared to offer the player a three-year contract as they plan a renewed challenge to the domestic supremacy of their Glasgow rivals, Rangers.

Wright signed a long-term contract extension when George Graham was the Arsenal manager and, when Graham was dismissed a fortnight ago, Stewart Houston, Graham's replacement, made it clear that he is intending to keep all the club's players at Highbury. Ken Friar, the Arsenal managing director, said yesterday: "We have not heard anything at all about Wright going to Celtic."

Although Celtic refused to confirm or deny the speculation, the Celtic manager, Tommy Burns, did confirm that Mike Galloway's proposed move to Leicester City was back on. The Leicester manager, Mark McGhee, wanted to extend Galloway's loan period at Filbert Street for a further two months, but Celtic insisted they would prefer a permanent transfer and it seemed the player would be returning north.

However, Burns said yesterday: "It's alive again and I'm hopeful something can be agreed." Celtic seem likely to want around £250,000 for Galloway, 29, a midfield player who has played six times for Leicester during his one-month loan period.

Burns is close to clinching a new deal with one of his best players, the central defender, Brian O'Neil. The 22-year-old former midfield player has been a huge success at centre half since being moved into defence in October and recently won a Scotland B cap in his new position.

O'Neil, who is expected to play against Kilmarnock in the Tennents Scottish Cup quarter-final on Friday before starting a two-match suspension, is in contract talks with Burns.

"I'm still talking to Brian and his agent," Burns said. "I would hope something can be agreed within the next week or so."

Kinnear's stand, page 44

Scapegoat for litany of failure

Alan Lee says Fletcher was dismissed because England won only five of 26 Tests under him

It will have hurt him, of course, because he cared about the job with a passion that was positively ageing him. Yet dismissal will not have shocked Keith Fletcher. Not the way it did the last time.

Thirteen years ago, in the spring of 1982, Fletcher had his first experience as a scapegoat. Peter May, then the chairman of selectors, telephoned and told him, in his clipped City tones, that he was no longer required as England captain.

So stunned was Fletcher, so overcome by the loss of something he held precious, that he left his Essex home without a word and drove blindly into the countryside. He does not know for how long he drove, or where he went. He admits to having shed a tear and to having uttered a curse.

Yesterday, as he became the first man to find himself sacked from the captaincy and then the management of the England team, he had an alternative escape. The snow. It is not yet known whether he took the solitary option again, on his family skiing trip, but at least this time, he had some premonition of his fate.

Oddly enough, Fletcher took the initiative himself. He was in a call-box, somewhere in the Alps, and telephoned Alan Smith, the chief executive of the Test and County Cricket Board, on the pretext of discovering how a meeting of the development committee had proceeded. Fletcher, who reversed the charges, had to ward off some irritable tourists banging on the door of the box.

It was not an easy conversation at the London end. "I'm at paid to do things like this, but I don't like it," Smith said. "Keith is a very decent man who has adorned our game for 30 years. As I would expect from him, he took the news calmly, resolutely and with dignity."

Fletcher eventually had to go because he had lost touch with his players, because they no longer looked to him first for advice and motivation. It will be perceived, however, that he went because England's record under him was deplorable. Only five of 26 Tests were won: 15 were lost. The only victorious series was against New Zealand, and, on three overseas tours, his record was two Tests won and ten lost. Not good enough, as the 13 wise men declared at Lord's.

There will be sympathy for "the Gnome" on a grand scale, and not only because he is a popular man. He has had a thankless task and the latter months were complicated further by an unprecedented rash of injuries and by the unhelpful interjections of Raymond Illingworth, the man who now takes his role.

In essence, he has never been free of pressure to quit. Questions were asked and voices raised in anger after his first series, the embarrassing 3-0 loss in India three winters ago. When his team was then humiliated by Sri Lanka, too, many were gleefully pointing out the folly of having given him a five-year contract.

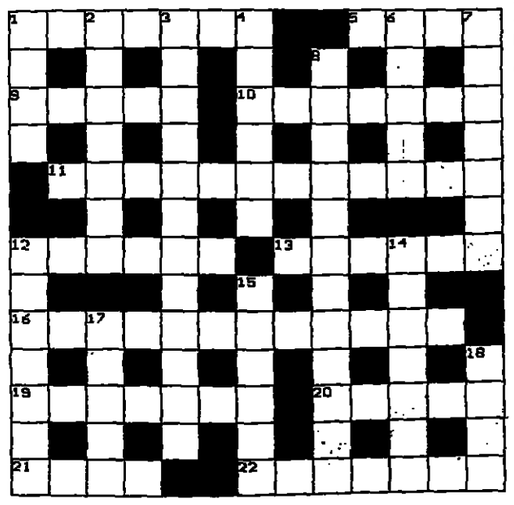
Yet folly it was. In this volatile sporting age, no managerial figure should command such a long-term commitment. The fact remains, however, that Fletcher was acknowledged as the obvious choice to succeed Micky Stewart in 1992. He was elected unopposed.

Yet Fletcher was never so comfortable on the broad canvas of international cricket as he had been, for so long and with such success, at his beloved county. It is possible that he may return to Essex now, in some capacity, but he will bear the scars of three fraught winters, countless unpleasant inquests and an uncomfortable farewell call from a frozen phone-box.

ENGLAND IN TESTS UNDER FLETCHER

Date	Opponents	Venue	P	W	L	D
1992-93	India	away	3	0	3	0
	Sri Lanka	away	1	0	1	0
1993	Australia	home	6	1	4	1
1993-94	W Indies	away	5	1	3	1
1994	N Zealand	home	3	1	0	2
	S Africa	home	3	1	1	1
1994-95	Australia	away	5	1	3	1
TOTAL			26	5	15	6

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 415

ACROSS
1 Echo: be widely known (7)
5 Body of church (4)
9 Take (others' property) (5)
10 Dutch postimpressionist (3,4)
11 Paradise (6,2,4)
12 Upper half of dress (6)
13 Plant cover; hat (6)
16 Kitchen menial (6-6)
19 Fishing lure; type of bowler (7)
20 Unusual, bizarre (5)
21 Uninterrupted filmed sequence (4)
22 Type of moth, penguin (7)

DOWN
1 Waterside plant; haste (4)
2 Mess waiter (7)
3 Future swan (H C Andersen) (4,3)
4 Churchman; intuit (6)
6 Spoken out (5)
7 Improve further (7)
8 A single decisive (rapid) movement (3,4,5)
12 Look after others' children (7)
14 Originator (7)
15 Turn sharply aside (6)
17 Deceit, joke (5)
18 Catcall (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 414
ACROSS: 1 Behemoth 5 Ibid 9 A small fortune 10 Cran 11 Execute 13 Potent 15 Rustle 18 Involve 20 Fuss 23 Turn a blind eye 24 Reap 25 Greyness
DOWN: 1 Bray 2 Homer 3 Melanin 4 Tuffet 6 Bouquet 7 Deepened 8 Urge 12 Splinter 14 Taverna 16 Unfunny 17 Cellar 19 Load 21 Suede 22 Jess

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TV licence to cost £86.50

The cost of a colour television licence will rise from £84.50 to £86.50 on April 1, the Heritage Secretary Stephen Dorrell announced yesterday. The fee for black and white sets will rise from £25 to £

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PROBLEM
Elbows n
inside of
Knees rub
inside of co
HOW M
WILL E
DRIVER